

Grade VIII – Political Science
Lesson 8. Confronting Marginalisation

Objective Type Questions

(1 Mark each)

I. Multiple choice questions

1. Which article ensures the abolishment of untouchability?
 - a. 16
 - b. 18
 - c. 17
 - d. 19
2. The chief groups of marginalised include
 - a. Scheduled castes
 - b. Backward Castes
 - c. Scheduled Tribes
 - d. All of them
3. Which community as per the constitution cannot wipe away the rights of marginalised group?
 - a. Majority
 - b. Long
 - c. Small
 - d. None of these
4. In which year was the Scheduled castes and the Scheduled tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act framed?
 - a. 1889
 - b. 1984
 - c. 1989
 - d. 1844
5. The government frames _____ in keeping with the spirit of the Fundamental Rights.
 - a. New laws
 - b. measures
 - c. schemes
 - d. none of these
6. He was an Adivasi activist from Kerala
 - a. A H Janu
 - b. C K Janu
 - c. B K Janu
 - d. D K Janu
7. Who challenged the priest by directly questioning him about where untouchability came from?
 - a. Kabir
 - b. Tulsidas
 - c. Kalidas
 - d. Mira



8. The practice of removing human excreta is known as:

- a. Manual handling
- b. Manual cleaning
- c. Manual discharge
- d. Manual scavenging

1. (c)	2. (d)	3. (a)	4. (c)	5. (a)	6. (b)	7. (a)	8. (d)
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II. Multiple choice questions

1. Article _____ of the Constitution states that untouchability has been abolished.

- a. 15
- b. 17
- c. 21
- d. 27

2. Manual scavenging is a disgraceful practice of

a. removing human waste or excreta using brooms, tin plates and baskets and carrying it on the head to the disposal grounds.

- b. removing animal waste or excreta
- c. both (a) and (b)
- d. removing human waste by machines

3. Who wrote the poem on untouchability?

- a. Meerabai
- b. Johrabai
- c. Chandbardai
- d. Soryabai

4. The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act came into being in the year .

- a. 1980
- b. 1985
- c. 1989
- d. 1991

5. Who cannot avail reservations?

- a. Brahmans
- b. Dalits
- c. Adivasis
- d. Backward and most backward

1. (b)	2. (c)	3. (d)	4. (c)	5. (a)
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Next Generation School



III. Multiple choice questions

1. Who out of the following are facing inequalities due to marginalisation?
 - a. Dalits
 - b. Women
 - c. Adivasis
 - d. All of them
2. Which is the Article of Constitution that states that untouchability has been abolished?
 - a. Article 16
 - b. Article 18
 - c. Article 28
 - d. Article 17
3. Who wrote the poem on untouchability?
 - a. Poet Chokhamela
 - b. Poet Surender Sharma
 - c. Poet Maitali Sharana Gupta
 - d. Poetess Soyrabai
4. How does government ensure to end the inequity in the country?
 - a. Through laws
 - b. Through reservations
 - c. Both A and B
 - d. None of these
5. What term means to exclude or banish an individual or a group?
 - a. Dalit
 - b. S.C.
 - c. Ostracise
 - d. None of these
6. A person or a group that can express themselves and their views strongly are
 - a. Assertive
 - b. representative
 - c. forceful person
 - d. none of these
7. Who was Karbir by caste?
 - a. Weaver
 - b. Kumhar
 - c. Barber
 - d. Mason
8. Which type of poems Kabir wrote?
 - a. Bhakti tradition
 - b. Veer Ras
 - c. Revolutionary
 - d. None of these
9. What do you understand by manual scavenging?
 - a. Work of scavenging by machine
 - b. Work of scavenging by hand
 - c. Work of scavenging by power
 - d. None of these
10. When did the Supreme Court ban the practice of manual scavenging?
 - a. 2001
 - b. 2002
 - c. 2004
 - d. 1993



11. The forest or tribal people living in their aboriginal state-the lifestyle are known as

- a. I nvoke
- b. Dalit s
- c. Adivasis
- d. None of these

12. Which Act is important for Adivasis?

- a. Act , 1989
- b. Act , 1990
- c. Act , 1991
- d. Act , 1996

13. Who needs to constantly work to bring equality and dignity for all?

- a. Government
- b. People
- c. None of them
- d. Both of them

1. (d)	2. (d)	3. (d)	4. (c)	5. (c)	6. (a)	7. (a)
8. (a)	9. (b)	10. (d)	11. (c)	12. (a)	13. (d)	

IV. Multiple choice questions

1. Manual scavengers in different parts of the country are known by the names of :

- a. Bhangis in Gujar at
- b. Pakhis in Andhr a Pradesh
- c. Sikkaliars in Tamil Nadu
- d. All of these

2. C K Janu, an Adivasi activist , has pointed out that the state governments are the violators of their constitutional rights because they allow encroachers. It takes the form of :

- a. Timber merchant s
- b. paper mill owner s
- c. indust rialist s
- d. All of these

3. Reservations play an important role in providing social justice to:

- A. Adivasis
- B. Dalit s
- C. Muslims
- D. Hindus
- a. A, C
- b. A, B
- c. B, C
- d. A, D

4. The Central Government passed the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act in:

- a. 2006
- b. 2007
- c. 2008
- d. 2009

5. Article 17 of the Constitution states that the following practices have been abolished:

- a. Trafficking
- b. beggar
- c. unt ouchabilit y
- d. employment of children below ten years of age

1. (d)	2. (d)	3. (b)	4. (a)	5. (c)
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I. Match the following.

Column A	Column B
1. Fundamental Rights to Abolish	a. Andhra Pradesh
2. Soyra Bai	b. Untouchability
3. Safai Karamchari Andolan	c. Confront
4. Groups challenging their marginalisation	d. Wife of Chokhamela

1. (b)	2. (d)	3. (a)	4. (c)
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II. Match the following.

Column A	Column B
1. The Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act	a. 2003
2. The Safai Karamchari Andolan filed a PIL	b. Article 15
3. The Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forests Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act	c. 1993
4. The Indian Constitution states that no citizen shall be discriminated against on the basis of race; religion, sex or place of birth.	d. 1989
5. The scheduled castes and the scheduled Tribes Act	e. 2006

1. (c)	2. (a)	3. (e)	4. (b)	5. (d)
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III. Match the following.

Column A	Column B
1. Untouchability	a. Face to face
2. Priest	b. Work to earn money
3. Occupation	c. Scavenging by hand
4. Confront	d. Temple
5. Manual scavenging	e. Not touchability



1. (e)	2. (d)	3. (b)	4. (a)	5. (c)
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IV. Match the following

Column A	Column B
1. PIL filed by SafaiKaramchariAndolan	a. 1993
2. Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act	b. 2006
3. Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act	c. 1989
4. SC and ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act	d. 2003

1. (d)	2. (b)	3. (a)	4. (c)
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I Fill in the blanks

- The term Dalit means _____.
- Untouchability is a _____ crime.
- Kabir was a poet of _____ century.
- _____ means to give up ownership or authority.
- The government's _____ is a very significant effort to end inequity in the system.

1. broken	2. punishable	3. 15 th
4. Dispossess	5. Reservation policy	

II. Fill in the blanks

- There are specific _____ and _____ for the marginalised in our country.
- Nobody can force a Dalit to drink or eat any _____ or _____ substance.
- Manual scavengers are exposed to _____ conditions of work and face serious hazards.
- The job of manual scavenging is mainly done by _____ women and young girls.



5. The government provide for free or _____ hostels for students of Dalit and Adivasi communities.

1. laws; policies	2. inedible; obnoxious	3. inhuman health
4. Dalit	5. subsidised	

III. Fill in the blanks

- _____ are those rights which the Constitution of India has conferred on every citizen without any discrimination.
- Dalit means _____.
- The _____ is important for Adivasis.
- Many people of India work on _____ in factories, etc.

1. Fundamental Rights	2. Broken	3. Act 1989	4. Daily wages
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IV. Fill in the blanks

- Article _____ of the Constitution states that untouchability has been abolished.
- _____ cannot avail reservations.
- There are specific _____ and _____ for the marginalisation in our country.
- Manual _____ are exposed to sub-human health conditions of work and face serious hazards.
- The job of manual scavenging is mainly done by _____ women and young girls.

1. 17	2. Unmarginalized	3. Laws, policies
4. Scavengers	5. Dalit	

I. True or False

- Manual Scavengers are exposed to subhuman health conditions of work and face serious hazards.
- C K Janu was a doctor.
- Brahmans can avail reservations.
- The SafaiKaramchariAndolan filed a PIL in 2003.

1. True	2. False	3. False	4. True
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II. True or False

1. The scheduled castes and the scheduled tribes Act, 1989 contains a short list of crimes.
2. The Indian constitution has provided many safeguards to protect the minorities.
3. The reservation policy of the government is meant only for the Dalits.
4. Manual Scavengers get low wages for the work they perform.
5. The Supreme Court of India could not do anything to ban the practice of manual scavenging.

1. False	2. True	3. False	4. True	5. False
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III. State True or False

1. Generally, Adivasis live in forests or mountainous areas.
2. Fundamental Rights are those rights which the Constitution of India has conferred with the discrimination.
3. Dalits had to work for powerful castes to earn their livelihood.
4. The Constitution ensures that principles that guide our society and nation are democratic.
5. Fundamental Rights are not available equally to all people.

1. True	2. False	3. True	4. True	5. False
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IV. State True or False

1. Article 17 of the Indian constitution states that untouchability has been abolished.
2. The law for protection of manual scavengers was passed by the government in 1994.
3. The Central government passed the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers Act in 2006.
4. Article 15 has been used by the Dalits to seek equality where it has been denied to them.
5. The Pakhis in Andhra Pradesh and the Sikkaliars in Tamil Nadu have been the victims of untouchability.

1. True	2. False	3. True	4. True	5. True
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Very Short Answer Questions

1. List two Fundamental Rights in the Constitution that Dalits can draw upon to insist that they be treated with dignity and equals. Re-read the Fundamental Rights listed on page 14 of the textbook to help you answer this question.

The two Fundamental rights are

- (i) Right to equality (ii) Right against exploitation

2. Re-read the story on Ranthnam as well as the provisions of the 1989 Acheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act. Now list one reason why you think he used this law to file a complaint.

This law provides protection to Dalits and Adivasis. Therefore, Rathnam sought the support of this law.

3. Name the marginal groups.

Adivasis, Dalits, Muslims, women and others.

4. Explain the SafaiKaramchariAndolan.

SafaiKaramchariAndolan is an organisation in Andhra Pradesh, working with manual scavengers.

5. Explain Article 15 of the Constitution.

Article 15 of the Constitution states that no citizen of India shall be discriminated against on the basis of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth.

6. Which fundamental Rights have been upon the minority groups?

The Right of Freedom of Religion and Cultural and Educational Rights have been drawn upon the minority groups.

Short Answer Type Questions

1. Why do Adivasi activists, including C K Janu, believe that Adivasis can also use this 1989 Act to fight against dispossession? Is there anything specific in the provisions of the act that allows her to believe this?

The act confirms that land belonging to tribal people cannot be sold to or bought by non-tribal people. In cases this has happened, the Constitution guarantees the right of tribal people to re-possess their land.



2. Describe Article 17 of the Constitution.

(i) Article 17 of the Constitution states that untouchability has been abolished.

(ii) This means no one can henceforth prevent Dalits from educating themselves, entering temples, using public facilities, etc.

(iii) It is wrong to practise untouchability and is a punishable crime now.

3. Define manual scavenging

Manual scavenging refers to the practice of removing human and animal waste/excreta using brooms, tin plates and baskets from dry latrines and carrying it on the head to disposal grounds some distance away.

4. To protect the manual scavengers from serious health hazards what did the government do?

In 1993, the government passed the Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act. This law prohibits the employment of manual scavengers as well as the construction of dry latrines.

5. How do the government and the Constitution promote social justice? Give an example.

(i) Both Central and State government create specific schemes in tribal areas or in areas that have a high Dalit population.

(ii) For example, the government provides for free or subsidised hostels for students of Dalit and Adivasi communities so that they can avail of education facilities that are not available in their localities.

6. What is reservation policy?

(i) Reservation policy is very significant and highly contentious.

(ii) The laws which reserve seats in education and government employment for Dalits and Adivasis are based on an important argument that in a society like ours, where for centuries various sections of the population have been denied opportunities to learn and to work in order to develop new skills or vocations, a democratic government needs to step in and assist these sections.

7. How does the reservation policy work?

(i) Students applying to the educational institutions and those applying for posts in government are expected to furnish proof of their caste or tribe status, in the form of caste and tribe certificates.



(ii) If a particular Dalit caste or a certain tribe is on the government list, then a candidate from that caste or tribe can avail of the benefit of reservation.

Long Answer Type Questions

1. The poem and the song in this unit allow you to see the range of ways in which individuals and communities express their opinions, anger and sorrow. In class do the following exercises-

(i) Bring to class a poem that discusses a social issue. Share it with your classmates. Work in small groups with two or more poems to discuss their meaning as well as what the poet is trying to communicate.

(ii) I identify a marginalised community in your locality. Write a poem, or song, or draw a poster, etc. to express your feelings as a member of this community.

(i) Class Activity

(ii) Self-attempt

2. Describe the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.

(i) The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act was framed in 1989 to protest against the domination and violence of the powerful communities against Dalits and other tribal groups.

(ii) In order to indicate to the government that untouchability was still being practised and in the most hideous manner, Dalit groups demanded new laws that would list the various sorts of violence against Dalits and prescribe stringent punishment for those who indulge in them.

3. Mention the crimes that have been dealt with by the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act?

This act contains a very long list of crimes, some of which are too horrible even to contemplate. The act distinguishes several levels of crimes

(i) Firstly, it lists modes of humiliation that are both physically horrific and morally reprehensible and seeks to punish those who:

a. Force a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe to drink or eat any inedible or obnoxious substance.



b. Forcibly removes clothes of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe member or parades him or her naked or with painted face or body, or commits any similar act which is derogatory to human dignity.

(ii) The act recognises crimes against Dalit and tribal/women and therefore seeks to penalise any one who:

(a) Assaults or uses force on any woman belonging to a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe with intent to dishonour her.

(iii) Actions that disposes Dalits and Adivasis.

4. Define the demands of Adivasis and the 1989 Act.

(i) The 1989 Act is important as Adivasi activists refer to it to defend their right to occupy land that was traditionally theirs.

(ii) Adivasis, often unwilling to move from their land, are forcibly displaced.

(iii) This Act merely confirms that the land belonging to the tribal people cannot be sold to or bought by non-tribal people.

(iv) CK Janu, an Adivasi activist, has pointed out that one of the violators of Constitutional Rights guaranteed to tribal people are governments in the various states of India-for it is they who allow non-tribal encroachers in the form of timber merchants, paper mills, etc. to exploit tribal land and to forcibly evict tribal people from their traditional forests in the process of declaring forests as reserved or as sanctuaries.



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