

HIT LIST SOIOLOGY 2017

UPSC-SOCIOLOGY-2017		SMART SOCIOLOGY TEST BATCH-2017		HIT LIST-2017	
No.	Questions	Test No.- Question No.	Questions	Short Notes/ Long Answer No.	Topics
PAPER - I					
1) a.	Explain how sociology has emerged as a distinct discipline based on rationality and scientific temper.	Test-9 Q.No.1a	A new framework of ideas about man, society and nature, challenged the existing conceptions rooted in a traditional world-view resulting in the emergence of study of society.	Paper-1 Long Answer (1)	Intellectual background, World revolution and emergence of sociology
1) b.	Examine ethno methodological and phenomenological perspectives as critique of positivism.	Test. 9 Q. No.1b	Sociology must attempt to understand social phenomena from the standpoint of those involved in it. Discuss	Paper-1 Short Notes (4)	Problems of objectivity
1) c.	Illustrate with example the significance of variables in sociological research.	Unit 3. Research methods and analysis :	Topic 3.7 Variable Page 3.25 Smart Sociology Book – Paper I (Volume-1)		
1) d.	Critically analyse 'Talcott Parsons' conception of 'Pattern Variables'	Test.5 Q.No.1b	According to Parsons there are universal dichotomies that represent the basic choices underlying social interaction. Explain		
1) e.	Can we equate 'poverty' with 'poor living'? Elaborate your answer	Test:7 Q.4.b	Social exclusion is distinct from poverty .It is a complex and multi-dimensional process. Discuss with illustrations	Paper 1 Short notes No: 16	Poverty and social Exclusion
2) a.	Discuss the changing equations of discipline of sociology with other social sciences.	Test No.11 Q.1a	Sociology and philosophy	Short Notes No.1	Sociology and philosophy /History /Economics/ Anthroplogy/ Psychology
2) b.	Examine the basic postulates of positivism and post-positivism.	Test No.1 Q.1e	Sociology should concern itself only with what can be observed with the senses and that theories of social life	Short Notes No.6	Nomothetic and Idiographic methods

		Test No.1 Q.4b	should be built in a rigid, linear, and methodical way on a base of verifiable fact. Discuss Positivism's greatest shortcoming with particular reference to the social sciences is in its failure to distinguish between the natural and social worlds. Discuss		
2) c.	Elaborate the main tenets of interpretative perspective in sociology	Test No:1 Q.No:1 c	People act toward things based on the meaning those things have for them, and these meanings are derived from social interaction and modified through interpretation.	Paper-1 Short Notes (2)	Sociology as interpretative science
3) a.	Discuss distinct sociological method adopted by Emile Durkheim in his study of 'Suicide'	Test No:1 Q.No:2 b	The suicide-rate is a factual order, unified and definite. Critically discuss	Long Answer 2	Methodology of Durkheim (Suicide)
3) b.	Analyse Marxian conception of historical materialism as a critique of Hegelian dialectics.	Test No:3 Q.No:2 a	An understanding of society involves a historical perspective that examines the process whereby humanity produces and is produced by social reality. Analyse.	Long Answer 5	Historical materialism (Karl Marx)
3) c.	Examine epistemological foundations of qualitative methods of social research.	Test No:11 Q.No:1 b	Sociology as an interpretative science	Short Notes No:6	Nomothetic and Idiographic methods
4) a.	What is Weberian critique of Marxist notion of social stratification?	Test No:3 Q.No:4 a	Weber explicitly denies the Marxist thesis that class struggle is inevitable. Explain	Long Answer 23	Compare Marxian and Weberian theories of social change
4) b.	Examine gender, ethnicity and race as major dimensions of social stratification.	Test No:7 Q.No:5 a	The concept of patriarchy is indispensable for an analysis of gender inequality. Discuss	Short Notes No:14	Social stratification- Class ,Status ,Gender ,Ethnicity

		Test No:9 Q.No:5 c	Ethnicity and discrimination		and Race as dimensions
4). c.	How can one resolve the issue of reliability and validity in the context of sociological research on inequality?	Test:9 Q.1d	Reliability and validity in social research	Short notes No: 7	Reliability and Validity
5) a.	What do you understand by 'informalisation of labour'? Write your answer with special reference to India.	Test:9 Q.2c	Formal and informal organizations of work	Short notes No: 20	Informal organization of work
5) b.	Discuss the changing interface between state and civil society in post-independent India.	Test:8 Q.2c	Civil society and democracy	Short notes No: 22	Democracy and civil society
5) c.	Give an assessment of Durkheimian notion of 'sacred' and 'profane' in sociology of religion.	Test:11 Q.1c	Sacred and profane	Short notes No: 9	Sacred and Profane
5) d.	Examine 'patriarchal bargain' as gendered division of work in contemporary India.	Test:7 Q.2c Test:7 Q.5a	Feminisation of work The concept of patriarchy is indispensable for an analysis of gender inequality. Discuss	Long Answer 22	Patriarchy and sexual division of labour
5) e.	Assess the role of mass media as an agent of social change			Paper-II Short notes No: 34	Social media network
6) a.	Trace the changing nature of organization of work in capitalist society over the years	Test:3 Q.2b Test:9 Q.2c	Social change proceeds from contradictions built into society which are source of tension and ultimately the source of open conflict and radical change. Discuss Formal and informal organizations of work		

6) b.	What is new in 'new social movements'? Elaborate your answer with special reference to India.	Test:8 Q.3e	New social movements represents a departure from the conventional modes of politics. Discuss		
6) c.	Examine the dynamics of pressure groups in multi-party political system.	Test:8 Q.1e	Pressure groups and Parliamentary democracy	Paper-II Short notes No: 23	Pressure groups and Civil society in India
7) a.	Examine the relationship between the contemporary trends in marriage and changing forms of family.	Test:7 Q.4a	The variety of family types and living arrangements that exist in contemporary society reflect the broader changes in society as a whole. Critically analyse	Paper-I Long Answer 21	Changing family today
7) b.	Discuss the regional variations of kinship system in Indian society.	Test:4 Q.3d	Types of kinship system		
7) c.	Problematise the concept of secularism in the present context.	Test:8 Q.4a	Do you think that the sacred has no place in modern society that has undergone a process of desacrilisation? Substantiate your answer with illustration.	Paper-I Long Answer 18	Secularization and Cultural Nationalism
8) a.	Examine any two theories of social change in detail.	Test:8 Q.5a	Some sociologists argue that social change involves a natural gradual development process while for others change is sudden, rapid and initiated by members of society. Analyse	Paper-I Long Answer 24	Compare Marxian and Parsonian views on social change
8) b.	Critically analyse the role of science and technology in bringing about social change.	Test:8 Q.4c	Role of Science and technology as an agent of social change	Paper-I Short notes No: 30	Science and Technology and social change /Agents of social change
8) c.	Elaborate on various types of religious practices prevalent in Indian society.	Test:8 Q.5c	Sects and cults	Paper-I Short notes No: 27	Sects and cults

PAPER - II					
1.a	Write a critique of the structural and functional perspective used by M.N. Srinivas in the understanding of Indian society.	Test:2 Q.4b	Critically analyse how structural functional approach can explain the Indian society.	Paper-II Long Answer: 2	Structure functionalism (M.N.Srinivas)
1.b	Which is more significant, the principle of 'hierarchy' or the principle of 'difference', in intercaste relations in the present day?	Test:2 Q.3a	Ideology of the caste system	Paper-II Short notes No: 4	Homohierarchicus / Purity and Pollution (Louis Dumont)
1.c	What are the distinct features of Islam as practiced in India, and how have they changed over time?	Test:2 Q.1d	Caste among non hindus	Paper-II Short notes No: 9	Caste among non Hindus
1.d	How have the struggles against untouchability changes their forms and perspectives from Gandhian to Ambedkarite positions?	Test:2 Q.3c	"It is not possible to break caste without annihilating the religious notions on which it, the caste system, is founded".Discuss	Paper-II Short notes No: 25	Dr.B.R.Ambedkar (Annihilation of caste) Vs Mahatma Gandhi on Caste/Varna
1.e	Write a short note on 'changing means of production and increased rural poverty'.	Test:6 Q.1d Test:6 Q.2b	Problems of rural labour Critically discuss the role of neoliberal policies in the severe agrarian crisis and agrarian distress in India at present.	Paper-II Long Answer: 7 Paper-II Long Answer: 11	Changing Modes of Production in Indian Agriculture – Green revolution/Globalisation/Capitalism Globalisation and rising inequalities/Poverty
2.a	The main objectives of	Test:2 Q.2c	Social reformists during colonial rule	Paper-II Short notes	Self Respect Movement

	socio-religious movements during the colonial rule in India were reforming and synthesizing Hinduism. Write on any two such important movements.		undertook to reform Indian society and its religious practices in order to adapt them to Western modernity while preserving the core of Hindu tradition. Discuss	No: 5 Paper-II Short notes No: 6	SNDP Movement
2.b	Discuss Yogendra Singh's thesis on Modernization of Indian Tradition, and evaluate its applicability in the present day context.	Test:2 Q.2b Test:10 Q.5a	Convergence towards "modern" values is unlikely and that traditional values will keep on having a particular influence on the cultural changes. Comment. Analyse the paradoxical nature of social change caused by the agents of modernisation of Indian society.	Paper-II Long Answer: 3	Modernization of Indian tradition - Coexistence of Tradition and Modernity
2.c	What are the changes in the cultural and structural aspects of the caste system since independence?	Test:2 Q.1a Test:2 Q.1b Test:2 Q.4c	Patterns of caste system Dominant caste Cultural mobility in the traditional rural India	Paper-II Short notes No: 7	Dominant Caste and politics
3.a	Indebtedness is one of the serious issues leading to farmers' suicides. Discuss reasons and suggest solutions.	Test:10 Q.3a Test:4 Q.5b	Analyse the changes that agrarian social structure is undergoing in Indian society with suitable illustrations Is Agrarian Crisis in India today, a creation of the policy of globalization? Discuss with relevant illustrations	Paper-II Long Answer: 17	Farmers Suicide and Agrarian Unrest today
3.b	Clarify the distinction between 'household' and 'family' and evaluate whether	Test:4 Q.3e	Family and household		

	joint families have completely disintegrated.				
3.c	Compare the North Indian Kinship System with the South Indian Kinship System.	Test:4 Q.3d	Types of kinship system		
4.a	Explain the concepts of 'dominant caste' and 'vote bank', giving examples from specific regions.	Test:2 Q.3d	Politicisation of caste	Paper-II Short notes No: 7	Dominant Caste and politics
4.b	What is the nature of religious change among tribal communities? Illustrate with two examples from colonial and post independence times.	Test:4 Q.1a Test:4 Q.1b	Issues of tribal identity Tribe and caste	Paper-II Short notes No: 14	Tribes and Caste - Comparison
4.c	Compare the pressing problems of a dalit poor family living in an urban slum with a similar type of family living in a rural setting.	Test:6 Q.1c Test:10 Q.3c	Sociology of urbanization Social profile of slums	Paper-II Short notes No: 18	Urbanisation /Slums/Culture of poverty
5.a	What are the reasons for the escalation of violence against women in the public domain?	Test:6 Q.3d	Structural factors behind violence against women	Paper-II Short notes No: 26	Structural factors behind violence / Sexual Harassment against women
5.b	Write a note on Education and Equality in India.	Test:6 Q.1e Test:8 Q.3c	Disparity in education Education largely serves the interest of the powerful and reinforce inequalities. Discuss	Paper-II Short notes No: 24	Educational inequalities /Privatisation of Education
5.c	Give an account of the problems relating to the "creamy layer".	Test:10 Q.4c	Sociology of reservation	Paper-II Short notes No: 8	Reservation/Protective discrimination

5.d	Do you agree that the issue of child labour raises questions about and beyond the informal sector? Give reasons.	Test:10 Q.1a	Child labour and Social Structure	Paper-II Short notes No: 20	Child labour
5.e	What are the emerging concerns on women's reproductive health?	Test:6 Q.3b	Social dimensions of population control	Paper-II Short notes No: 16	Reproductive health / Child and Infant mortality
6.a	Discuss some of the striking issues of development induced imbalances that need urgent attention.	Test:12 Q.7a	Developed for few has resulted in the displacement of many. In the light of the given statement critically analyse the crises of development in India today.	Paper-II Long Answer:21	Crisis of development: displacement, environmental problems and sustainability
6.b	Examine the impact of heritage tourism on urban socio-spatial patterns in India.			Paper-II Short notes No: 18	Urbanisation /Slums/Culture of poverty
6.c	What are the causes and solutions for the low female sex-ratio in the DEMARU States of Punjab, Haryana, Himachal and Gujarat?			Paper-II Short notes No: 16	Reproductive health / Child and Infant mortality
7.a	Despite gains from the women's movement and state policy of women empowerment, gender equality is far from achieved. Identify two major challenges that prevent this goal from being reached.	Test:7 Q.5a	The concept of patriarchy is indispensable for an analysis of gender inequality. Discuss	Paper-II Long Answer:6	Patriarchy and women - Changing status of women / Women's movement
7.b	To what extent does nation building depend on strengthening of pluralities in	Test:11 Q.6a	Critically discuss how cultural nationalism threatens the social fabric of a society	Paper-I Long Answer:18	Secularization and Cultural Nationalism

	Indian society?		characterized by religious pluralism. Substantiate your answer with relevant illustrations.	Paper-II Long Answer:14	Nature of Secularism – Threats today – Cultural/ Ethno/Hyper Nationalism
7.c	Explain the issues relating to ethnicity and sub-ethnicity.	Test:4 Q.1b Test:9 Q.5c	Tribe and caste Ethnicity and discrimination	Paper-II Long Answer:20	Ethnicity and Identity movements
8.a	What is Cultural Revivalism? Give some examples from performing arts, language dissemination and arts and crafts in recent times.			Paper-I Long Answer:19 Paper-II Short notes No: 31	Religious revivalism and fundamentalism. Intolerance in India today
8.b	What, according to you, are the two fundamental axes of social discrimination in Indian society? Are they changing?	Test:2 Q.3c Test:2 Q.5c Test:7 Q.5a	“It is not possible to break caste without annihilating the religious notions on which it, the caste system, is founded”. Discuss Sociology of inequality The concept of patriarchy is indispensable for an analysis of gender inequality. Discuss	Paper-I Short notes No: 14	Social stratification- Class, Status, Gender, Ethnicity and Race as dimensions
8.c	Why have we started using another category of tribes called the particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)? Why are they so called?	Test:4 Q.1a	Issues of tribal identity	Paper-II Short notes No: 13	Integration/Assimilation of Tribes – Problem of Tribal identity