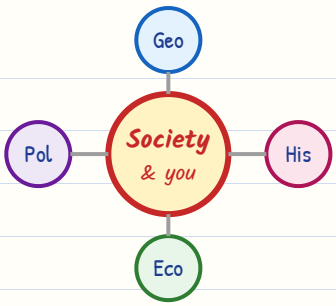
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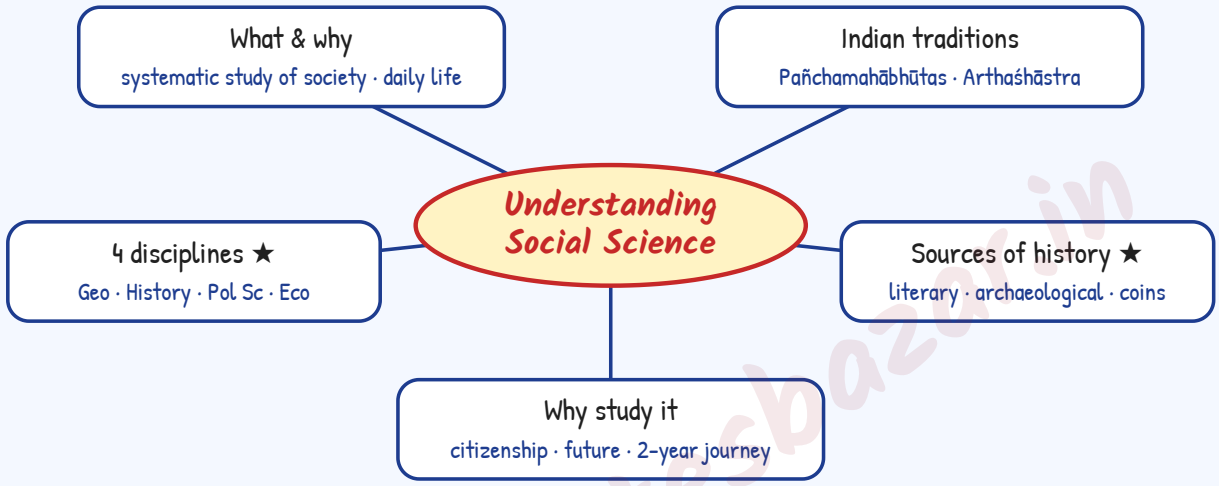
Class 9 · Social Science · New NCERT 2026-27

Chapter 1 Understanding Social Science



Understanding Society: India and Beyond · Grade 9 Part 1

Chapter map



What is inside

1. Concept notes with diagrams
2. Don't-confuse tables
3. NCERT activities answered
4. Exam-style questions, solved
5. 3 case-based questions
6. 20 MCQs · 10 Assertion-Reason
7. My mistakes page · one-page summary

Colour code used

red = key term green = definition

orange = process / date

purple = sub-heading

★ = likely exam topic

2 = marks a point is worth

★ **Exam tip:** This is the **new 2026-27 book**. The old "French Revolution / Palampur" chapters are no longer in the syllabus. Questions here are **exam-style** (written for this book), since no past papers exist yet.

Based on NCERT "Understanding Society: India and Beyond", Grade 9 Part 1, Chapter 1 (first edition 2026). Notes and answers are our own.

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What is Social Science? ★

Human beings live in **societies** and depend on each other. Our lives are shaped by the **environment**, the **institutions** that govern us, the **economic activities** that meet our needs, and the **traditions and ideas** passed down through generations. Understanding these connections is the foundation of Social Science.

Definition ✎ **Social Science** is the **systematic study of human society**. It tells us **what** happened and **where** things are, and also explains **why** events occur, how people live together, how environments influence life, how governments function, how economies operate, and how the past and present together shape the world.

Point	Natural Sciences	Social Science
Examples	Physics, Chemistry, Biology	Geography, History, Political Science, Economics…
Studies	the **natural world**	**society**, institutions, cultures, human interactions
Key question	how nature works	what happens in our social world, **why** it happens, and how life is **interconnected**

Social Science in everyday life

Even the simplest day depends on **governance, production, cooperation and environment**:

- 🏠 house built from materials sourced from different places
- 🍛 food grown in other regions — harvested, processed, transported, bought and sold
- 🛣️ roads planned and maintained by public authorities
- 🏫 school shaped by educational policies
- ⚡ electricity from distant power stations through a vast network

Questions Social Science asks

- Why do some live in crowded cities, others in scattered villages?
- Why do communities speak different languages, follow different traditions?
- Why do some regions farm while others focus on industry or trade?
- How do governments make decisions affecting millions?
- Why are certain regions more flood-prone? Why does farming flourish in some?
- How does climate change influence our lives?

★ **Exam tip:** Key line to write: **society does not function by chance** — it is shaped by **history, geography, institutions, resources and human choices**. Social Science explores these through **observation, evidence and logical reasoning**.

🌍 **Real-life lens:** The phone in your hand: designed in one country, assembled in another, sold through markets (economics), taxed and regulated (political science), its metals mined from the Earth (geography) — and it changed how we live compared with 20 years ago (history).

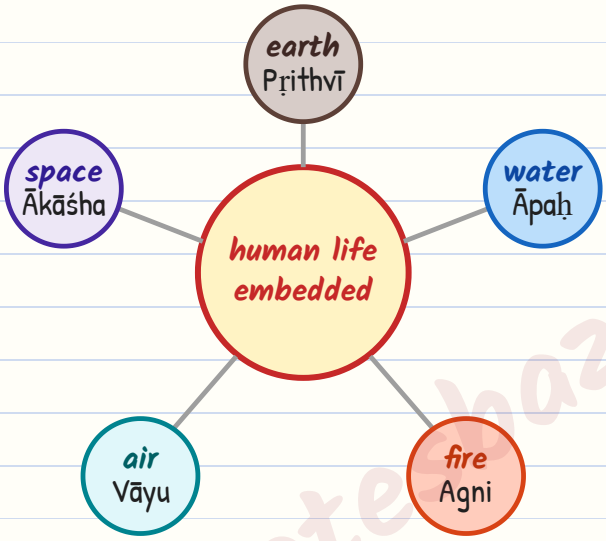
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Understanding society through time and traditions

Society has changed greatly over thousands of years:

depended on nature → crops & domestic animals → settlements, tools → exchange of goods → governance → villages → towns → cities

New ideas, inventions and cultural exchanges gradually transformed ways of life. This **spirit of inquiry** has deep roots in **India's knowledge traditions** — early thinkers valued **discussion, questioning and logical reasoning**; knowledge came through observation, reflection and dialogue.



Pañchamahabhūtas — the five great elements

Definition ✎ **Pañchamahābhūtas** (from Indian philosophical traditions): the world is made of five fundamental elements — **earth** (Pṛithvī), **water** (Āpaḥ), **fire** (Agni), **air** (Vāyu) and **space** (Ākāśha).

It describes the natural world as an **interconnected system** in which human life is embedded — an early attempt to understand nature as a system. It helps explain how the environment shapes **settlements, occupations, architecture, food habits and health practices** — still relevant as societies respond to environmental challenges.

Vasudhaiva kuṭumbakam

"The world is one family" — the interconnectedness of human societies across regions and cultures. This **interdependence** lies at the core of what Social Science studies in global interactions.

Arthaśhāstra

Attributed to **Kauṭilya**, composed about **2,300 years ago**. Examined **administration, economic management, taxation** and the **duties of rulers** toward people — systematic thinking about governance long before modern disciplines.

How social scientists work ★

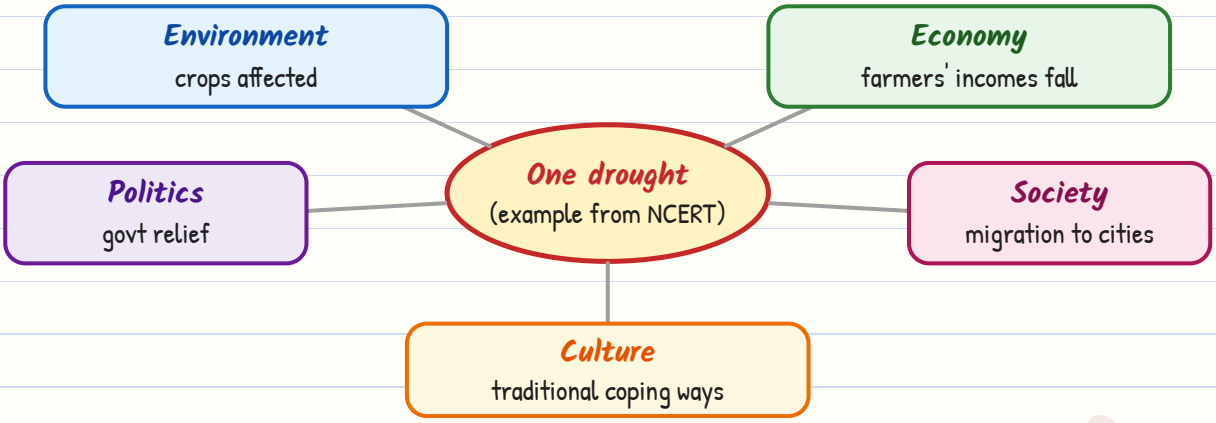
observe people's lives + interviews & surveys + examine documents + compare times & places → explanations supported by **evidence**

So Social Science explains both **what endures and what changes** — how the past shapes the present and how today's actions will influence the future.

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Social Science as a study of disciplines ★

Human society is complex; **no single field can fully explain it**. So Social Science is **not a single subject but a group of related disciplines**, each focusing on a different aspect of human life.



One event, five lenses — that is why we need many disciplines

The four core disciplines of Grades 9–10

Geography
studies the **Earth**, its environments, and the relationships between **people and their surroundings**.

History
examines the **human past** and how societies **change over time**.

Political Science
analyses **governance, power**, and the **rights and responsibilities** of citizens.

Economics
explores how societies **produce, distribute and use resources** to meet needs.

Other members of the Social Science family: Sociology, Philosophy, Anthropology, Psychology — they explore social relationships, ethical reasoning and human behaviour in depth, and will be developed in higher grades.

Memory trick: "Get Happy, Play Every day" — Geography, History, Political Science, Economics. Each asks different questions, yet all are **interconnected** and give a **holistic** understanding of society.

Geography

Definition ✎ **Geography** studies the **location and distribution** of places, objects, materials and people, and the **relationships between human societies and their surroundings** — both the physical features of the Earth and the human communities living on it.

Three questions Geography asks

1. **Where** are things located?
2. **Why** are they found there?
3. **How** do places — near or distant — **affect one another over time**?

It views the world as a **system of interdependencies** and is **holistic**, combining:

Spatial perspective	Temporal perspective
location and its significance	change over time

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A bridge subject

Geography draws on **natural sciences** (Physics, Chemistry, Biology…) **and social sciences** (Political Science, Economics, History).

Example from NCERT: it explains why India has historically been a **hub of global interaction** — the Indian peninsula's long **coastline** made contact with **Africa, Europe and Southeast Asia** easy.

Tools of a geographer ★

🗺️ **Maps & atlases** show location and distribution	🌐 **Globes** true shape of the Earth	🛰️ **GIS** Geographical Information System — computer maps in layers
📊 **Infographics** data shown as pictures	🔧 **Instruments** for measuring and observing	💻 **School Bhuvan** NCERT's portal (by NRSC) to map your own village or city

Let's Explore (NCERT): open NCERT's **School Bhuvan** portal (bhuvan-app1.nrsc.gov.in/mhrd_ncert/) and locate your school, a river and a highway near you. Note which way the river flows and where most houses are built — that is spatial thinking!

What you will study in Geography (Grades 9–10)

processes shaping the Earth's surface and **landforms** · **atmosphere and climate** · **oceans** · major **biomes** and India's **biosphere reserves** · **geospatial technologies** · life in different regions of India and the world · geographical and socio-economic perspectives on issues · history of geographical knowledge.

📜 History

> **Definition** ✎ **History** is the study of the **human past**, through which societies understand people's experiences, values and changes over time.

There are multiple ways to interpret the past and pass on cultural values. One of the oldest traditions in Bharat is the **itihāsa-purāṇa** tradition — through **stories** it shares historical information and gives **cultural meaning** to events and people, reinforcing ideals and values and offering **identity and purpose**.

Different cultures use different methods: some stress **moral and philosophical insight**, others **documentary verification**.

Modern historiography relies more on **empirical evidence**, using scientific tools:

- 🧬 human **genetics**
- ⚛️ **carbon-14 dating**
- ⛏️ **archaeology**
- other scientific methods to fix **timelines**

> **Definition** ✎ **Empirical evidence:** information collected by actual **observation or experimentation**.

Sources of history ★ (most important part of the chapter)

📖 **Literary**	🏺 **Archaeological**	🪨 **Epigraphic**	🪙 **Numismatic**

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travelogues, memoirs, correspondence, folklore, oral traditions, revenue documents *e.g. Sāmaveda manuscript (National Museum, New Delhi); palm-leaf manuscript of the Tirukkuṛaḷ, an ancient Tamil text of ethical wisdom*	**material remains**: monuments, structures, excavated sites, artefacts, art (sculptures, paintings) — often studied with lab tests *e.g. terracotta figurine of the Sindhu-Sarasvatī Civilisation; 12th-century CE sculpture of Viṣhṇu*	texts, decrees or records **inscribed on durable materials** — stone, metal plates, rocks; direct evidence of rulers, administration, society *e.g. Brāhmī inscription on a Gupta-period pillar; Kannada inscription of Krishnadeva Raya, Hampi*	**coins**, currency, medals — metal content, inscriptions and symbols reveal economy, chronology, rulers, trade, boundaries, culture *e.g. coin of Samudragupta (4th c. CE); Jahangir's coin with zodiac sign Sagittarius*

Definition ✎ **Genealogical records:** documents that trace **family lineage and ancestry** — relationships between generations and events such as births, marriages and deaths.

🧠 ***Memory trick:*** "LAEN" = Literary · Archaeological · Epigraphic · Numismatic. Epi = "upon" (written upon stone); Numis = coins.

What you will study in History (Grades 9–10)

early human history · India from the beginnings of civilisation to the present · world landmarks: **Greco-Roman world, Reformation, Renaissance, Enlightenment, Industrial Revolution** · **colonialism**, its global impact and anti-colonial struggles.

Political Science

Definition ✎ **Political Science** is the study of **governance** — how and why **power is distributed**, decisions are made and policies implemented. It studies constitutions, governments and institutions of the State, social movements, nation building, foreign policy, and how power is exercised, shared and regulated in everyday life.

Panchayati Raj in India's villages embodies **grassroots democracy** — citizens get a voice in local development planning. So political power exists not only in formal institutions but also in **social relationships, customs and ideas of legitimacy**.

Early Indian political thought linked politics with:

dharma	moral duty
artha	economic well-being
rājadharma	duties of the ruler

Texts on justice, authority, social order and duties of kings and citizens: **Vedas, Upaniṣhads, Purāṇas**; governance, law and ethical leadership in the **Mahābhārata** and **Śhukranīti**.

The **Arthaśhāstra** stands out — how a state should be governed, taxes collected, the army run, and how rulers ensure the people's welfare.

★ ***Exam tip:*** Indian thought was **holistic** (politics + economics + social life + morality + defence) and saw **power as a responsibility, not merely a privilege**.

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You will study: democracy, elections, authority, civil society, governance and public policy, national security and its challenges.

Economics

> **Definition** ✎ **Economics** helps us understand how individuals and societies decide how to use **limited resources** to meet their needs — how goods and services are **produced, exchanged and distributed**.

Decision-maker	Decides
Consumers	what to buy
Producers	what and how much to produce
Governments	policies balancing growth & stability, efficiency & fairness

Economics is not only numbers and markets — also **well-being, equity and justice**.

- ***For centuries*** one of the world's leading economies; centre of trade, industry, maritime activity
- ***Colonial rule*** poverty, recurrent famines, decline of traditional industries
- ***After 1947*** rebuilding the economy
- ***Recent decades*** better infrastructure, education, technology; less poverty; longer life expectancy

Challenges remain: raising incomes and spreading the benefits of growth to all. Goal: **sustainable growth** — meeting present needs without harming future generations. **You will study:** Indian economy, markets and prices, financial management, entrepreneurship, GDP, international trade, the Union Budget.

Why should we study Social Science? ★

1. Understand systems

Houses, water, roads, schools, markets, even digital spaces are systems created by society. SS explains how they developed, function and affect different groups.

2. Respect diversity

Explains why people differ in language, customs, occupations (geographical, historical, cultural, economic factors) — builds respect and cooperation, and shows the **underlying unity** of Indian culture.

3. Responsible citizenship

Knowing how governments work and decisions are made prepares us to **participate responsibly in civic life** in a democracy.

4. Solve shared problems

Teaches us to ask informed questions about causes, effects and solutions of issues like environment, public health, jobs, urban growth.

5. Connect past, present and future

Understanding how past decisions shaped the present helps us make **wiser choices for the future**.

The future of Social Science

New technologies, expanding cities, environmental concerns, migration and global connections are reshaping life. SS will help societies tackle **climate change, sustainable development, social harmony** and **equitable use of resources**, guide the **responsible use of technology**, and prepare us to **shape the world as informed citizens** — strengthening national unity while staying rooted in our cultural traditions.

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Your two-year journey (Grades 9–10)

Discipline	Topics ahead
Geography	landforms, atmosphere & climate, oceans, biomes, biosphere reserves, geospatial tech
History	early humans → civilisations → India to the present; Renaissance, Industrial Revolution, colonialism
Political Science	democracy, elections, authority, civil society, public policy, national security
Economics	markets & prices, finance, entrepreneurship, GDP, trade, Union Budget

★ **Exam tip:** NCERT's closing message — worth quoting in a long answer: Social Science is **not about memorising dates, maps or definitions**; it is about understanding **people, places, society, culture and power** — learning from the past, analysing the present and imagining a better future.

Don't-confuse tables

Discipline	Main focus	Example question	Tools / sources
Geography	Earth, location, people-environment	Why is this region flood-prone?	maps, globes, atlas, GIS, infographics
History	human past, change over time	How did villages become cities?	literary, archaeological, epigraphic, numismatic sources
Political Science	governance, power, rights	How are decisions made for millions?	constitutions, institutions, policies
Economics	using limited resources	Why do some regions farm, others trade?	data on production, prices, incomes

Source	What it is	Example
Literary	written texts, letters, travelogues, oral traditions	Sāmaveda manuscript; Tirukkuṛaḷ palm leaf
Archaeological	material remains	terracotta figurine; Viṣhṇu sculpture
Epigraphic	inscriptions on stone/metal	Brāhmī pillar inscription; Krishnadeva Raya's inscription
Numismatic	coins, medals	Samudragupta's coin; Jahangir's zodiac coin
Genealogical	family lineage records	births, marriages, deaths

Term	Meaning
Pañchamahābhūtas	five great elements — earth, water, fire, air, space
Vasudhaiva kuṭumbakam	"the world is one family"
Arthaśhāstra	Kauṭilya, ~2,300 years ago — administration, taxation, duties of rulers
Itihāsa-purāṇa	Indian tradition of preserving cultural memory through stories
Dharma · artha · rājadharma	moral duty · economic well-being · duties of the ruler

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Spatial vs temporal	location and its significance vs change over time
Empirical evidence	information from actual observation or experiment

NCERT activities — model answers

Let's Analyse: Identify a change in your locality over the past five years (transport, housing, education, technology or environment). What was it earlier, what changed, what caused it, how has it affected people?

> **Ans.** **Sample report — "Our colony got a metro station":** *Earlier:* people took crowded buses; a 40-minute trip to the city centre. *Change:* a metro station opened in 2024. *Causes:* population growth, government urban-transport policy, funding. *Effects:* travel time halved, shops and rents near the station rose, fewer vehicles on some roads, but street vendors were moved. *Lens:* geography (location), economics (prices), political science (government planning), history (change over time).

Let's Explore: Map your village/city on School Bhuvan.

> **Ans.** Search your locality, switch on layers (roads, water bodies, settlements), mark your school and home, and note patterns — e.g. houses cluster along roads and near water. This shows Geography's **spatial perspective**.

Exam-style short answers (2–3 marks)

Exam-style Define Social Science. How is it different from natural sciences? 2

> **Ans.** The systematic study of human society — what happened, where, and **why** (1). Natural sciences (Physics, Chemistry, Biology) study the natural world; Social Science studies society, institutions, cultures and human interactions (1).

Exam-style Why is Social Science called a group of disciplines? Give an example. 3

> **Ans.** Society is complex and no single field can explain it (1). A drought, for example, affects crops (environment), incomes (economy), relief (politics), migration (society) and coping traditions (culture) (1). So we need Geography, History, Political Science and Economics together (1).

Exam-style What are the Pañchamahābhūtas? Why are they relevant to Social Science? 2

> **Ans.** Five great elements — earth, water, fire, air, space (1). They show nature as an interconnected system in which human life is embedded, explaining settlements, occupations, architecture, food and health practices (1).

Exam-style Name two tools of Geography and two scientific methods used by modern historians. 2

> **Ans.** Geography: maps, globes, atlases, GIS, infographics (any two) (1). History: carbon-14 dating, archaeology, human genetics (any two) (1).

Exam-style Distinguish between epigraphic and numismatic sources with one example each. 2

> **Ans.** Epigraphic: inscriptions on stone, metal or rock — e.g. Brāhmī inscription on a Gupta-period pillar (1). Numismatic: coins and medals — e.g. Samudragupta's coin (1).

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Exam-style long answers (5 marks)

Exam-style "Even the simplest daily activities rely on many systems." Explain with examples from everyday life. 5

Ans. (i) **Housing:** built from materials sourced from many places 1 (ii) **Food:** grown in other regions, harvested, processed, transported and traded by many people 1 (iii) **Roads:** planned and maintained by public authorities 1 (iv) **School:** shaped by educational policies 1 (v) **Electricity:** from distant power stations via a vast network 1. These show society runs on governance, production, cooperation and the environment.

Exam-style Describe the four main types of historical sources with examples. 5

Ans. **Literary** – texts, travelogues, memoirs, letters, oral traditions; e.g. Sāmaveda manuscript, Tirukkuṛaḷ 1. **Archaeological** – material remains such as monuments, artefacts, sculptures; e.g. terracotta figurine of the Sindhu-Sarasvatī Civilisation 1. **Epigraphic** – inscriptions on durable materials; e.g. Krishnadeva Raya's Kannada inscription at Hampi 1. **Numismatic** – coins revealing economy, rulers, trade; e.g. Jahangir's zodiac coin 1. Modern historians also use genealogical records and scientific tools like carbon-14 dating 1.

Exam-style "Systematic thinking about governance and economy existed in India long before modern disciplines." Justify. 5

Ans. The **Arthaśhāstra** of Kauṭilya (~2,300 years ago) examined administration, taxation, the army and rulers' duties 1. Politics was linked with **dharma, artha and rājadharma** 1. Vedas, Upaniṣhads and Purāṇas discussed justice, authority and duties; the Mahābhārata and Śhukranīti dealt with law and ethical leadership 1. Power was seen as a **responsibility** 1. Ideas like vasudhaiva kuṭumbakam and the Pañchamahābhūtas show early thinking about interconnection; such traditions still shape institutions like Panchayati Raj 1.

Exam-style Why should students study Social Science? Give five reasons. 5

Ans. (i) understand how social systems (roads, markets, schools) develop and affect people (ii) respect diversity while seeing India's underlying unity (iii) participate responsibly in democracy (iv) ask informed questions about shared problems like environment and health (v) connect past, present and future to make wiser choices *1 each*

Exam-style Explain how Geography is both a natural and a social science. 3

Ans. It studies physical features of the Earth using natural sciences (Physics, Chemistry, Biology) 1 and human communities using social sciences (History, Economics, Political Science) 1; e.g. India's long coastline (physical) made it a hub of trade with Africa, Europe and Southeast Asia (human) 1.

Case-based questions (4 marks each)

Case 1 · The flood in Riverpur. Heavy rains flood Riverpur. Paddy fields are destroyed, daily-wage workers lose income, the district administration opens relief camps, many young people leave for city jobs, and elders recall how earlier generations built houses on raised platforms.

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(i) Which discipline studies why Riverpur floods? (1) (ii) Name the discipline studying the relief camps. (1) (iii) Show how this one event needs all disciplines of Social Science. (2)

> **Ans.** (i) Geography. (ii) Political Science (governance). (iii) Environment: crops destroyed (Geography); incomes lost (Economics); relief by administration (Political Science); migration and the elders' traditions of raised houses (History / society and culture) — one event, many lenses, so Social Science is a group of disciplines.

Case 2 · The museum visit. Class 9 visits the National Museum. They see a Sāmaveda manuscript, a terracotta figurine, a stone pillar with Brāhmī letters, and a gold coin of Samudragupta.

(i) Classify each object as a type of source. (2) (ii) What can a coin tell historians? (1) (iii) Name one scientific method that could date the figurine. (1)

> **Ans.** (i) Manuscript — literary; figurine — archaeological; pillar — epigraphic; coin — numismatic. (ii) Economy, chronology, rulers, trade, political boundaries and culture, from metal content, inscriptions and symbols. (iii) Carbon-14 dating / laboratory testing.

Case 3 · Gram sabha day. In Meena's village, the gram panchayat holds a meeting where villagers vote to build a check-dam. The panchayat must also decide whether to spend its small budget on the dam or on a new school room.

(i) What does the gram sabha show about political power? (1) (ii) Which discipline studies the dam-vs-school choice? (1) (iii) Link this to ancient Indian political thought. (2)

> **Ans.** (i) Grassroots democracy — power also exists at the local level and citizens have a voice in planning. (ii) Economics — choices about using limited resources. (iii) Indian thought linked politics with dharma (duty) and artha (well-being) and saw power as a responsibility for public welfare, as in the Arthaśhāstra; Panchayati Raj continues this idea of local self-governance.

20 MCQs (1 mark each)

1. Social Science is best described as
   (a) study of nature (b) systematic study of human society (c) study of numbers (d) study of stars

2. Which is NOT a natural science?
   (a) Physics (b) Biology (c) Economics (d) Chemistry

3. Pañchamahābhūtas do NOT include
   (a) earth (b) space (c) metal (d) air

4. "Vasudhaiva kuṭumbakam" means
   (a) truth wins (b) world is one family (c) work is worship (d) knowledge is power

5. The Arthaśhāstra is attributed to
   (a) Kālidāsa (b) Kauṭilya (c) Aśhoka (d) Bāṇabhaṭṭa

6. It was composed about
   (a) 230 years ago (b) 1,000 years ago (c) 2,300 years ago (d) 5,000 years ago

7. Which discipline studies location and distribution?
   (a) History (b) Geography (c) Economics (d) Psychology

8. GIS stands for
   (a) Global Index System (b) Geographical Information System (c) Ground Image Survey (d) General Info Service

9. "Change over time" is the ___ perspective
   (a) spatial (b) temporal (c) political (d) economic

10. Coins as a source are called
    (a) epigraphic (b) literary (c) numismatic (d) genealogical

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11. An inscription on a stone pillar is
(a) epigraphic (b) numismatic (c) oral (d) literary

12. The Tirukkuṛaḷ is a/an
(a) Sanskrit play (b) ancient Tamil text of ethical wisdom (c) Mughal coin (d) inscription

13. Carbon-14 dating helps historians
(a) read scripts (b) establish timelines (c) draw maps (d) count votes

14. Itihāsa-purāṇa preserves memory through
(a) coins (b) stories (c) maps (d) surveys

15. Rājadharma means
(a) moral duty of all (b) economic well-being (c) duties of the ruler (d) religion

16. Panchayati Raj is an example of
(a) monarchy (b) grassroots democracy (c) colonial rule (d) a market

17. In economics, producers decide
(a) what to buy (b) what and how much to produce (c) tax laws (d) elections

18. Colonial rule in India led to
(a) more industries (b) recurrent famines (c) rising life expectancy (d) maritime boom

19. Which belongs to the wider Social Science family?
(a) Anthropology (b) Botany (c) Geology (d) Astronomy

20. Social Science is NOT mainly about
(a) understanding people (b) memorising dates and definitions (c) power (d) culture

Answer key

1 b	2 c	3 c	4 b	5 b	6 c	7 b	8 b	9 b	10 c
11 a	12 b	13 b	14 b	15 c	16 b	17 b	18 b	19 a	20 b

Assertion–Reason (10)

(a) Both A and R true, R explains A · (b) Both true, R does not explain A · (c) A true, R false · (d) A false, R true

1. A: Social Science is a group of disciplines. R: No single field can fully explain complex human society. → (a)
2. A: Geography uses natural sciences. R: It studies physical features of the Earth. → (a)
3. A: Coins help historians study trade. R: Coins are epigraphic sources. → (c)
4. A: The Arthaśhāstra discusses taxation. R: It was written in the 20th century. → (c)
5. A: Society functions by chance. R: History, geography and human choices shape society. → (d)
6. A: India was a hub of global interaction. R: Its long coastline aided contact with Africa, Europe and Southeast Asia. → (a)
7. A: Political power exists only in parliament. R: Power also exists in customs and social relationships. → (d)
8. A: Economics is concerned with equity and justice. R: Economics deals only with numbers. → (c)
9. A: Modern historians use carbon-14 dating. R: Modern historiography relies increasingly on empirical evidence. → (a)
10. A: Studying SS helps democracy. R: Citizens who understand government participate more responsibly. → (a)

Give reasons (2 marks each)

1. A drought is studied by more than one discipline.

> **Ans.** It affects crops, incomes, government relief, migration and culture — each is a different discipline's area. 2

2. Coins are valuable historical sources.

> **Ans.** Their metal, inscriptions and symbols reveal economy, chronology, rulers, trade and boundaries. 2

3. Geography is called a holistic discipline.

> **Ans.** It joins spatial and temporal perspectives and draws on both natural and social sciences. 2

4. The Pañchamahābhūtas idea is still relevant.

> **Ans.** It sees humans as part of nature's system, useful as societies respond to environmental challenges. 2

5. Social Science grows more important in the future.

> **Ans.** Rapid change — technology, cities, climate, migration — needs observation, evidence and connected thinking to manage. 2

My mistakes page ✗ → ✓

#	✗ Wrong	✓ Right
1	Social Science only tells what happened	It also explains **why** and how things connect
2	Coin = epigraphic source	Coin = **numismatic**; inscription = epigraphic
3	Pañchamahābhūtas include "metal" or "light"	earth, water, fire, air, **space**
4	Arthaśhāstra by Chāṇakya written 2,300 BCE	attributed to **Kauṭilya**, about **2,300 years ago**
5	Spatial = time	spatial = location; **temporal = time**
6	Political power is only in government	also in customs, social relations, Panchayati Raj
7	Economics = only money and numbers	also well-being, equity, justice
8	Only 4 social sciences exist	4 core for Grades 9–10; also Sociology, Philosophy, Anthropology, Psychology

Last-night summary ★

- **SS** = systematic study of society: what, where, **why**, how connected
- daily life runs on governance, production, cooperation, environment
- society is shaped by history, geography, institutions, resources, choices
- Indian roots: **Pañchamahābhūtas** (5 elements), **vasudhaiva kuṭumbakam**, **Arthaśhāstra** (Kauṭilya, ~2,300 yrs)
- methods: observation, interviews, surveys, documents, comparison → evidence
- **Geo**: where, why there, how places affect each other; spatial + temporal; maps, GIS, Bhuvan
- **History**: itihāsa-purāṇa; sources L-A-E-N + genealogical; carbon-14
- **Pol Sc**: governance & power; Panchayati Raj; dharma, artha, rājadharma
- **Eco**: limited resources; consumers, producers, govts; sustainable growth
- why study: systems, diversity, citizenship, problems, past-present-future

★ **Exam tip:** Last check: name the 4 disciplines with one line each, the 4 sources with one example each, and the 5 elements of the Pañchamahābhūtas — then explain the drought example in 5 lines.

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