

Print Culture and the Modern World

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Objective Section _____ (1 mark each)

Q. 1. Which one of the following was NOT the reason for the popularity of scientific ideas among the common people in eighteenth century Europe ?

[CBSE OD, Set 1, 2020]

- (a) Printing of idea of Isaac Newton
- (b) Development of printing press
- (c) Interest of people in science and reason
- (d) Traditional aristocratic groups supported it.

Ans. (d)

Q. 2. Why was the Vernacular Press Act passed in 1878?

OR

Why was 'Gulamgiri' book written by Jyotiba Phule in 1871?

[CBSE Delhi, Set 1, 2020]

Ans. The Vernacular Press Act was passed in 1878 to restrict vernacular newspapers to publish any material that might excite feelings of dissatisfaction against the British government.

OR

Jyotiba Phule wrote book 'Gulamgiri' in 1871 to link the conditions of the black slave in America with those of the lower castes people in India.

Q. 3. Fill in the blank.

Buddhist missionaries from China introduced hand-printing technology into _____ around AD 768-770.

OR

By 1448, Gutenberg perfected the system of printing first book he printed was the _____.

[CBSE Delhi, Set 1, 2020]

Ans. Japan.

OR

Bible.

Q. 4. Why was reading of manuscript not easy in India? Choose the appropriate reason from the following options: :

[CBSE Delhi, Set 1, 2020]

- (a) Manuscripts were highly cheap.
- (b) Manuscripts were widely spread out.
- (c) Manuscripts were written in English and Hindi.
- (d) Manuscripts were fragile.

Ans. (d)

Q. 5. Who were called 'Chapmen'?

[CBSE Delhi, Set 1, 2020]

- (a) Book seller
- (b) Paper seller
- (c) Workers of printing press
- (d) Seller of 'penny chap books.'

Ans. (d)

Q. 6. Who among the following published 'Punjab Kesari'? [CBSE Delhi, Set 2, 2020]

- (a) Balgangadhar Tilak
- (b) Mahatma Gandhi
- (c) Bhagat Singh
- (d) B.R Ambedkar

Ans. (a)

Q. 7. Which one of the following was published by Raja Ram Mohan Roy?

[CBSE Delhi, Set 3, 2020]

- (a) Sambad Kaumudi
- (b) Shamsul Akhbar
- (c) Punjab Kesari
- (d) Chandrika

Ans. (a)

Short Answer Type Questions-I _____ (1 mark each)

Q. 1. Why was printing of textbooks sponsored by the Imperial State in China?
[CBSE OD, Set 1, 2019]

Ans. The printing of textbooks were sponsored by the Imperial State in China because China possessed a large bureaucratic system, which recruited their personnel through Civil service examinations. That is why, textbooks were printed in large numbers to provide them with study material.

Q. 2. How had hand printing technology introduced in Japan?
[CBSE Delhi, Set 1, 2019]

Ans. Buddhist missionaries from China introduced hand printing technology in Japan around 768-770 AD.

Q. 3. Why did the Roman Catholic Church impose control over publishers and booksellers?
[CBSE, 2018]

Ans. The Roman Catholic Church imposed control over publishers and booksellers because printed religious literature started writing about God and his creation in different ways. They were afraid of the impacts of books on people's mind.

Q. 4. Who invented printing press and when?
[CBSE, Term 1, 2016]

Ans. Printing press was invented by Johannes Gutenberg in the year 1430.

Short Answer Type Questions-II _____ (3 marks each)

Q. 1. How had the printing press created a new culture of reading in Europe? Explain with examples.
[CBSE OD, Set 1, 2019]

Ans. With the introduction of the printing press, a new wave of print culture began in Europe. It was defined by accelerated production of books and printed material. Mass production of books lead to decrease in the prices of the books and their circulation increased. Now, the reading culture was not restricted only to the elites but, even the common people had easy access to these books.

Printers also focused on publishing folk tales and ballads, well-illustrated with pictures so that the books could be enjoyed even by a less educated audience from the villages. These books gave an opportunity to more and more people to come in contact with the ideas of philosophers and leading thinkers of the time. Thus, this changed the reading culture of Europe widely.

Q. 2. How had the Imperial State in China been the major producer of printed

material for a long time? Explain with examples.

OR

How had novels been easily available to the masses in Europe during nineteenth century? Explain with examples.
[CBSE Delhi, Set 1, 2019]

Ans. From AD 594 onwards, books in China were printed by rubbing paper – against the inked surface of woodblocks. The imperial state in China was, for a very long time, the major producer of printed material. China possessed a huge bureaucratic system which recruited its personnel through civil service examinations. Textbooks for this examination were printed in vast numbers under the sponsorship of the imperial state. From the sixteenth century, the number of examination candidates went up and that increased the volume of print. By the seventeenth century, as urban culture bloomed in China, the uses of print diversified. Reading increasingly became a leisure activity. Women, revolutionaries, poets and

even merchants used print in everyday life.

OR

Novels have been easily available to the masses in Europe because of the following reasons:

(i) Invention of the printing press and other technological advancements were mainly responsible for the

growing popularity of novels in Europe.

(ii) Development in means of transportation and communication made it possible to send the copies of novels all over Europe.

(iii) Setting up of public libraries or lending libraries also made novels easily accessible.

Q. 3. "The 'Print Revolution' had transformed the lives of people changing their relationship to information and knowledge." Analyse the statement. [CBSE, 2018]



Topper's Answers

Introduction : Print revolution was not just a new way of producing books but it transformed the lives of people to information and knowledge.

(a) It reduced the time, labour and cost of producing books. Books became accessible. People from all spheres of life began reading books. Transition from hearing to reading public.

(b) The people now looked at the world with new eyes, eyes that were questioning and critical, applying the rule of reason and rationality.

(c) People were persuaded to think differently. It opened their mind to vast horizons of knowledge as they exposed to ideas of thinkers and philosophers. They analysed the things in their own way.

Conclusion : Thus, a new world of debate & discussion was created. They were now aware, rational and judged everything with reason.

Ans. The 'Print Revolution' transformed the lives of people changing their relationship to information and knowledge and with institution and authorities. It influenced popular perception and opened up new ways of looking at things:

- (i) Printing reduced the cost of books. The time and labour to produce each book came down and multiple copies were being produced with greater ease.
- (ii) Due to easy access to books, illiterate persons could listen to the sacred texts of religious books, folk tales and ballads being recited.
- (iii) Before print revolution, books were not only expensive but they could not be produced in sufficient numbers. Now books can reach out to wider sections of people.

Q. 4. Give any three reasons for the enhancement of literacy in the 17th and 18th centuries in most parts of Europe.

[CBSE, Term 1, 2016]

Ans. Three reasons for the enhancement of literacy in the 17th and 18th century in most of the parts of Europe were:

- (i) Churches of different denominations were set up, and schools in villages began carrying literacy to peasants, artisans etc.
- (ii) By the end of the 18th century in some parts of Europe literacy rates were as high as 60 to 80%.
- (iii) As literacy and schools spread in European countries, there was a virtual reading mania. People wanted to read and printers produced books in ever increasing numbers.

Q. 5. Why did British government curb the freedom of the Indian press after the revolt of 1857? [CBSE, Term 1, 2016]

Ans. The British government curbed the freedom of the Indian press after the revolt of 1857 because the attitude to freedom of the press changed. Enraged Englishmen demanded a clamp down on the 'native' press.

As vernacular newspapers became assertively nationalist, the colonial government began debating measures for stringent control.

Q. 6. What was Protestant Reformation?

[CBSE, Term 1, 2015]

Ans. In the 16th Century the Catholic church was dominated by the Rome. There were so many deformities that came in the path of church which needed to improve. For improving Catholic church, the movements took place in the 16th century which was called Protestant Reformation. Martin Luther was a very popular social reformer of 16th century, he wrote a well famous book 'Ninety five theses'. This book totally criticised many malpractices and rituals of the church. After the movement, several traditions against catholic church were developed.

Q. 7. Explain how print helped the poor people to express their ideas on various issues. [CBSE, Term 1, 2015]

Ans.

- (i) In the early 20th century, public libraries were set up for the poor people. In the late 19th century, issue of casteism began to be written in presses.
- (ii) Jyotiba Phule wrote 'Gulamgiri' which exposed the ill treatment of the low castes.
- (iii) Dr. B. R. Ambedkar and Ramaswamy Naicker wrote about the untouchability, the evil of society.

These books and writings highlighted how poor people were exploited by the upper castes. These books were read all over India and became helpful to improve the conditions of the poor people.



Long Answer Type Questions _____ (5 marks each)

Q. 1. Read the sources given below and answer the questions that follows :
Source – 1 : Religious Reform and Public Debates

There were intense controversies between social and religious reformers and the Hindu orthodoxy over matters

like widow immolation, monotheism, brahmanical priesthood, and idolatry. In Bengal, as the debate developed, tracts and newspapers proliferated, circulating a variety of argument.

Source-2 : New Forms of Publication
New literary forms also entered the

world of reading lyrics, short stories, essays about social and political matters. In different ways, they reinforced the new emphasis on human lives and intimate feelings, about the political and social rules that shaped such things.

Source-3 : Women and Print

Since social reforms and novels had already created a great interest in women's lives and emotions, there was also an interest in what women would have to say about their own lives.

Source-1 : Religious Reform and Public Debates

(1.1) Evaluate how did the print shape the nature of the debate in the early nineteenth century in India.

Source-2 : New Forms of Publication

(1.2) To What extent do you agree that print opened up new worlds of experience and gave a vivid sense of diversity of human lives ?

Source-3 : Women and Print

(1.3) To what extent did the print culture reflect a great interest in women's lives and emotions ? Explain. [CBSE, OD, Set 1, 2020]

- Ans. (1.1)** From the early nineteenth century there were intensive debates around religious issues. Different religious groups confronted the changes happening within colonial society in different ways and offered a variety of new interpretations of the beliefs of different religions.
- (1.2)** The print opened up new worlds of experience and a vivid sense of diversity because of following reasons:
- (i)** It created a new culture of reading because earlier there was a hearing public, now a reading public came into being.
 - (ii)** It created the possibility of wide circulation of ideas, and introduced a new world of debate and discussion.
- (1.3)** The print culture reflects a great interest in women's lives and emotions by following ways :
- (i)** Women became important as readers as well as writers. Penny magazines were especially meant for women, as these were

the manuals teaching proper behaviour and housekeeping.

- (ii)** When novels began to be written in the nineteenth century, women were seen as important readers. Some of the best known novelists were women: Jane Austen, the Bronte sisters, George Eliot.

Q. 2. Why did the Roman Catholic Church begin keeping an Index of Prohibited Books from the mid 16th century? Explain by giving five reasons.

[CBSE, Term 1, 2016]

- Ans.**
- (i)** It was feared that if there was no control over the printed material, then rebellion and irrational thoughts might spread.
 - (ii)** Many monarchs felt that if no control was applied, then printed books could lead to rebellions against the state authorities.
 - (iii)** Many religious authorities felt that free print material could make the people rebel against their cherished religions.
 - (iv)** Even many writers and artists began to fear that if no control was extended on the printed materials, the authorities of the valuable publications would be destroyed.

Q. 3. 'The shift from hand printing to mechanical printing led to the print revolution in Europe. Explain the statement with examples.

[CBSE, Term 1, 2015]

- Ans.** The shift from hand printing to mechanical printing led to the print revolution in Europe as printing became a revolutionary thing for the masses for getting information quickly.
- (i)** In the hand printing period, the printed books were resembled at a place and were not available for all to read, it was just a manuscript which was not available for the masses.
 - (ii)** Handwriting became more stylish after the invention of mechanical printing. Letters were made up of metals in this type of printing style.
 - (iii)** Paper borders were made and some other patterns were used in the printing to make it more attractive.
 - (iv)** Books were printed for rich section of the society in the Europe and it was decorated on his own bill and designed by his own choice.