ICSE 2025 EXAMINATION

SPECIMEN QUESTION PAPER

HISTORY & CIVICS

(H.C.G. Paper – 1)

Maximum Marks: ***80***

Time allowed: ***Two hours***

Answers to this Paper must be written on the answer sheet provided separately.

You will not be allowed to write during the first ***15*** *minutes.*

This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.

The time given at the head of this Paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.

Attempt ***all*** *questions from* ***Part I*** *(Compulsory).*

A total of ***five*** *questions are to be attempted from Part II,* ***two*** *out of three questions from* ***Section A*** *and* ***three*** *out of five questions from* ***Section B****.*

The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets[ ].

Instruction for the Supervising Examiner

Kindly read aloud the Instructions given above to all the candidates present in the Examination Hall.

PART I

*Attempt **all** questions from this **Part***

Question 1

Choose the correct answers to the questions from the given options. [16]

(Do not copy the question, write the correct answers only.)

(i) On May 19, 2023, the President of India exercised legislative power under Article123 of the Constitution, during the period Parliament was in recess, topromulgate*The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi Ordinance, 2023.* - *The Hindu, May 26,2023*

What information about an ordinance can we obtain from the above passage?

(a) The ordinance must be approved within six weeks

(b) Only the Cabinet can prepare an ordinance.

(c) It is issued when the Parliament is not functioning.

(d) If the Parliament does not approve it within six weeks it becomes inoperative. **[Application]**

(ii) Given below are details of few Indian citizens:

Person	Age [In years]	Description
W	34	Is a Professor in the Government College
X	35	Has taken up the citizenship of the United States of America
Y	27	Is a reputed sportsperson
Z	36	Is a scientist

Select the person who fulfils the eligibility criteria to become the President of India.

(a) W

(b) X

(c) Y

(d) Z **[Understanding]**

(iii) Who made the amendment which resulted in the below headline?


THE TIMES OF INDIA

KASHMIR IS NOW UNION'S TERRITORY

INDIA'S NORTH POLE SHIFTS TO CENTRE

(a) The Supreme Court

(b) The President

(c) The Parliament

(d) The Prime Minister **[Application]**

(iv) Residents of Jodhpur, X and Y got married in the year 2014 and after 4 months of wedlock, petty family issues and arguments resulted in their separation for 6 years. The matter was placed before the Bench of Lok Adalat Family Court, Jodhpur wherein all efforts were made to reunite the family again. With constant efforts of counselling parties agreed to live together and withdraw their Divorce Petition

Case Study,Lok Adalat,District – Jodhpur

Which advantage of the Lok Adalat is highlighted in the above case?

(a) Saves money

(b) Speedy justice

(c) Works on the spirit of compromise

(d) Reduces the burden on High Courts **[Application]**

(v) District Judge : _____ cases : : Sessions Judge : Criminal Cases

(a) Advisory

(b) Civil

(c) Constitutional

(d) Appellate **[Recall]**

(vi) Identify the exclusive powers of the Rajya Sabha

P: Can introduce a new All India Service

Q: Can impeach the President

R: Can never be dissolved as a whole

S: Can introduce a Money Bill

(a) P and Q

(b) R and S

(c) P and R

(d) Q and S

[Recall]

(vii) Read the two statements given below about the Civil Disobedience Movement and select the option that shows the correct relationship between (A) and (R).

Assertion (A): The Civil Disobedience Movement was renewed by Mahatma Gandhi.

Reason (R): The Second Round Table Conference was a failure.

(a) (R) contradicts (A).

(b) (R) is the reason for (A).

(c) (A) is true but (R) is false.

(d) (A) and (R) are independent of each other.

[Analysis]

(viii) The government of Country X has introduced a law similar to Ilbert Bill introduced in 1883. Who will be impacted by this Bill?

(a) The Farmers

(b) The Artisans

(c) The Soldiers

(d) The Judges

[Understanding]

(ix) The area in which Anand stays has had no water supply for three days in spite of repeated complaints. The residents have a meeting and discuss a few methods to resolve this problem. Being a follower of the beliefs and methods of the Early Nationalists, which of the following methods is Anand NOT LIKELY to approve?

(a) Peaceful procession by the residents

(b) Follow the method of boycott

(c) Write a petition to the government

(d) Write an article in the newspaper highlighting the problem. **[Application]**

(x) Which of the given policies is NOT aligned with the ideologies of the leader seen in the picture?



(a) prioritising military expansion

(b) promoting racist policies

(c) hosting an anti-communist seminar **[Understanding]**

(d) holding pro-democracy rallies

(xi) Identify the ODD ONE out of the following objectives of the Muslim League:

(a) To promote among Muslims of India, support for the British

(b) To promote cultural and socio-economic cooperation among Muslims

(c) To protect and advance political rights and interests of the Muslims

(d) To present the needs and demands of the Muslims to the government **[Analysis]**

(xii) Your school has organized a poster making competition on the topic - Education empowerment for Girls in India. Which of the following leaders would MOST LIKELY be part of the poster?

(a) Surendranath Banerjee

(b) Pherozeshah Mehta

(c) Dadabhai Naoroji

(d) Jyotiba Phule **[Understanding]**

(xiii) Read the description and identify the person –

He established the Forward Bloc and coined the slogan, '*Delhi Chalo*'.

(a) Mahatma Gandhi

(b) Subash Chandra Bose

(c) Bal Gangadhar Tilak

(d) Dadabhai Naoroji **[Recall]**

(xiv) Which of the following countries will NOT be part of this cartoon?



(a) China

(b) Japan

(c) Russia

(d) Britain **[Application]**

(xv) Identify the cities most affected by American action in World War II.

(a) Rome, Berlin

(b) Tokyo, Berlin

(c) Hiroshima, Nagasaki

(d) Tokyo, Rome **[Recall]**

(xvi) Which of the following scenarios describes the Non-Alignment Policy (NAM)?

(a) A country forms a military alliance only with the United States.

(b) A country maintains relations with both factions during the Cold War and does not take sides.

(c) A country is part of a religious movement advocating non-violence

(d) A country aligns with Soviet Union and receives military aid. **[Understanding]**

Question 2

Read the extract given below and answer the question which follows:

Congress member's adjournment motion disallowed. The notice, along with another moved demanding a discussion on China, was disallowed in the Lok Sabha.

The Times of India,Feb 10, 2023

(i) Who can allow or disallow the above motion? What does this motion mean? [2]
[Understanding]

(ii) Which category of power is being exercised by the President in the following: [2]

(a) Approval of Bills

(b) Appointment of the Supreme Court judges **[Recall]**

(iii) Imagine you were an artisan, in the year 1856. Mention any two ways in which the economic policies of the British would have affected you. [2]
[Understanding]

(iv) Give *two* reasons for the acceptance of the Mountbatten Plan by the Congress. [2]
[Recall]

(v) Mention any two leaders of the Assertive Nationalists. [2]
[Recall]

(vi) Mention any two objectives of the League of Nations. [2]
[Recall]

(vii) Name the two alliances formed in Europe before the beginning of the First World War. [2]

[Recall]

PART II

SECTION A

*Attempt **any two** questions from this Section.*

Question 3

The Union Legislature of India is not only the law-making body, but the center of alldemocratic political process. With reference to the Parliament, answer the following questions:

(i) The Lok Sabha is more powerful than the Rajya Sabha. Justify this by mentioning any three points. [3]

[Analysis]

(ii) *Rajya Sabha adjourned sine die, overall productivity at 79 percent.* [3]

- Deccan Herald,21 December 2023.

Who can adjourn the above session? Explain the composition of this house.

[Recall]

(iii) Mention *any four* legislative powers of the Parliament. [4]

[Recall]

Question 4

The President is the nominal head of the executive, the first citizen of the country, as well as the commander-in-chief of the Indian Armed Forces. With reference to this, answer the following questions:

(i) The President is the nominal head of the country and cannot act independently. Mention *any three* legislative powers of the President which justifies the nominal position. [3]

[Understanding]

(ii) Mention *any three* financial powers of the President. [3]

[Recall]

(iii) Describe the procedure of impeachment of the President. [4]

[Recall]

Question 5

The Supreme Court of India is the supreme judicial authority and the highest court of the Republic of India. It is the final court of appeal for all civil and criminal cases. With reference to the Supreme Court, answer the following questions:

(i) Who appoints the judges of the Supreme Court? [3]
Mention *any two* qualifications required for a person to be appointed as a judge of the Supreme Court. **[Recall]**

(ii) Under Article 129, the Supreme Court of India is called a Court of Record. [3]
Justify this statement with *any three* points. **[Analysis]**

(iii) Explain the following terms: [4]

(a) Revisory Jurisdiction

(b) Advisory Jurisdiction **[Recall]**

SECTION B

*Attempt **any three** questions from this Section.*

Question 6

The Indian Rebellion of 1857 was a major uprising against the rule of the British East India Company, which functioned as a sovereign power on behalf of the British Crown. With reference to this, answer the following questions:

(i) The British used many policies of expansion. Mention any three such policies. [3]
[Recall]

(ii) How did the failure of this Revolt impact the Mughals and the Peshwas? [3]
[Recall]

(iii) The India army was reorganised after 1858, to prevent the reoccurrence of another uprising. Analyse this statement by stating any four changes made in the army after the Revolt. [4]
[Analysis]

Question 7

Nationalism refers to the feeling of oneness that emerges when people consider themselves as one nation. With reference to the growth of nationalism, answer the following:

(i) Name the first President of the Congress. Mention any two of its objectives. [3]

[Recall]

(ii) The press played an important role in the growth of Indian Nationalism. Thus, the British saw the need for curbs on the press. Mention *any three* points to analyse the role of the press in the growth of nationalism. [3]

[Analysis]

(iii) Lord Lytton's repressive policies led to the growth of Nationalism. Mention *any four* policies enforced by him. [4]

[Recall]

Question 8

Read the excerpt given below and answer the questions that follow-

The March, which took place in India, was led by Mohandas Gandhi to protest British rule in India. During the march, thousands of Indians followed Gandhi from his religious retreat near Ahmedabad to the Arabian Sea coast, a distance of some 240 miles. The march resulted in the arrest of nearly 60,000 people, including Gandhi himself. "

— The Marion (Ohio) Star [Edited]

(i) Name the march being discussed above. Which movement did this march lead to? In which year was that movement launched? [3]

[Recall]

(ii) The movement which began with this march made a considerable impact on the social and political surroundings of the country. Analyse this statement by mentioning any three impacts. [3]

[Analysis]

(iii) Mention *any four* clauses of the Gandhi Irwin Pact. [4]

[Recall]

Question 9

Look at the picture given and answer the following questions:



(i) Describe the incident depicted in the cartoon. [3]

[Recall]

(ii) Mention *any three* points to analyse how Europe was rearranged as a consequence of the war caused by this incident. [3]

[Recall]

(iii) The Germans described the Treaty of Versailles as harsh and humiliating. Give *any four* reasons that justify this statement. [4]

[Analysis]

Question 10

The United Nations Organisation aims to maintain international peace. With reference to its organs and agencies, answer the following:

(i) What is the composition of the International Court of Justice? [3]

[Recall]

(ii) Mention any three functions of the General Assembly. [3]

[Recall]

(iii) *Gujarat's famed garba dance received the intangible heritage tag.* Which agency of the United Nations is authorized to give this tag? Mention any three other contributions of that agency in the preservation of culture. [4]

[Application & Recall]

ICSE 2025 SPECIMEN

DRAFT MARKING SCHEME - HISTORY AND CIVICS (H.C.G. PAPER 1)

PART I

*(Attempt **all** questions from this **Part.**)*

Question 1			[16x1]
(i)	(c)	It is issued when the Parliament is not functioning.	
(ii)	(d)	Z	
(iii)	(c)	The Parliament	
(iv)	(c)	Works on the spirit of compromise	
(v)	(b)	Civil	
(vi)	(c)	P and R	
(vii)	(b)	(R) is the reason for (A)	
(viii)	(d)	The Judges	
(ix)	(b)	Follow the method of boycott	
(x)	(d)	holding pro-democracy rallies	
(xi)	(b)	To promote cultural and socio-economic cooperation	
(xii)	(d)	Jyotiba Phule	
(xiii)	(b)	Subash Chandra Bose	
(xiv)	(b)	Japan	
(xv)	(c)	Hiroshima, Nagasaki	
(xvi)	(b)	A country maintains relations with both factions during the Cold War and does not take sides.	
Question 2			
(i)	The Speaker of the Lok Sabha. To give up on the business of the house and take up a matter of urgent importance.		[1+1]
(ii)	(a) (b)	Approval of Bills - Legislative Appointment of the Supreme Court judges – Executive	[2]

(iii)	Loss of livelihood/spinning and weaving stopped/ heavy taxation/competition from machine made goods/loss of patronage/ unavailability of raw materials/ Any other relevant point.	[2]
(iv)	It was the only solution to the communal problem of India/The experience of working with the League in the Interim Government had convinced the Congress that it is impossible to have a joint administration/. The League had joined the Government to obstruct and not to cooperate./The only alternative to partition was a weak Centre./ A smaller India with a strong authority was better than a bigger State with a weak Centre./Any further continuation of British rule would mean a greater calamity for India/Any further delay in transfer of power could lead to a Civil War/Partition would rid the Constitution of separate electorates and other undemocratic procedures. *(Any two)*	[2]
(v)	Lala Lajpat Rai/ Bala Gangadhar Tilak/ Bipin Chandra Pal *(Any two)*	[2]
(vi)	States were prohibited from entering into secret treaties and alliances/ could not maintain huge armies/ had to respect each other's independence/had to refer their mutual disputes if any to the League/ had to take necessary action as directed by the League/had to promote cultural, social and economic cooperation. *(Any two)*	[2]
(vii)	Triple Entente/ Triple Alliance	[2]
	PART II **SECTION A** *(Attempt **any two** questions from this Section.)*	
Question 3		
(i)	Motions of No-Confidence against the government can only be introduced and passed in the Lok Sabha/the Council of Ministers is answerable to the Lok Sabha only/ enjoy power only until they enjoy the trust of the house Money bills can be introduced only in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha cannot reject or amend it./.Budget is passed/.controls the national purse/has complete control over finance/ In case of a deadlock between the two houses, the will of the Lok Sabha prevails due to its higher numerical strength./Can pass an Adjournment Motion *(Any three)*	[3]
(ii)	The Chairman or the Vice President of India/[1] There are a total of 250 members, 238 from the states and 12 members are nominated by the President	[1+2]

(iii)	To make laws in the union list / Matters in the concurrent list / Residuary powers or matters not mentioned in 3 lists / Matters in the state list - during an emergency or approved by 2/3 majority by the Rajya Sabha or when two or more states ask / Ordinances must be approved / Powers during emergency. *(Any four)*	[4]
Question 4		
(i)	The President performs the following functions on the advice of the Prime Minister and his cabinet-Addresses the first session of the Parliament/sends messages to the Parliament/can summon and prorogue the Parliament/can dissolve the Lok Sabha/nominates 12 members to the Rajya Sabha/gives assent to a bill to make it a law/can promulgate ordinances/can give his/her assent to some state bills/Previous sanction to the Money bills /Introduction of Bills/Give approval for introduction of Bills regarding alteration of State /formation of state /Can call for a joint session of parliament. *(Three points)*	[3]
(ii)	Approve introduction of Money Bills/ Annual budget is presented on behalf of the President/Annual Financial statement is laid on his behalf/can authorized withdrawal of advances from the Consolidated Fund of India/ Appoints the Finance Commission *(Any three points)*	[3]
(iii)	Can be introduced in any house/ passed by 2/3 majority and sent to the second house/in the second house it is investigated and the President can also be present/ If both houses pass it by 2/3 majority the President will be impeached.	[4]
Question 5		
(i)	The President Must be a citizen of India/must have been a High Court judge for 5 years/Must have been an advocate of the High Court for 10 years/is a distinguished judge in the eyes of the President. *(Any two points)*	[1+2]
(ii)	Its judgement and orders are preserved as a record./. This can be produced in any court as precedents / future references / If a person commits a contempt of court, the court has the authority to punish him for contempt / The Supreme Court acts as the Guardian of the constitution. *(Any three points)*	[3]
(iii)	(a) Revisory Jurisdiction – The Supreme Court revises its own cases to remove any error that might have crept in because the judgements of the Supreme Court are like laws.	[2+2]

	(b) Advisory Jurisdiction - The Supreme Court can advise the President on constitutional matters/the advice is not binding on the President/ the SC is also not obliged to give advice.	
	Section B *(Attempt **any three** questions from this Section.)*	
Question 6		
(i)	The Doctrine of Lapse/ Subsidiary alliance/ Pretext of misgovernance/ Outright wars *(Any three)*	[1+1+1]
(ii)	The rule of the Mughals came to an end /as Bahadur Shah was deported/ The rule of the Peshwas ended as Nana Saheb fled from the country.	[3]
(iii)	The strength of the European troops in India was increased/ European troops were kept in key geographical and military positions/All Indian artillery units except the mountain units were disbanded/Sophisticated weapons were not given to the Indians/discrimination on the basis of caste was practised/introduction of caste and community in regiments/newspaper and journals were kept away from soldiers. *(Any four points)*	[4]
Question 7		
(i)	W.C. Bonnerjee To promote friendly relations between nationalist political workers from different parts of the country/To develop and consolidate feelings of national unity irrespective of caste, religion or province/to formulate popular demands and present them before the government /to train and organize public opinion. *(Any two points)*	[1+2]
(ii)	The press helped spread the ideals of patriotism, modern liberal ideas of liberty/freedom/equality/home rule/ and independence/criticized the British policies/ helped Indians exchange views/ made them aware of the happenings in the world/ Any other relevant point. *(Any three points)*	[3]
(iii)	The Vernacular Press Act Gagging Act / Press Regulation /The Indian Arms Act/Organising the Grand Delhi Durbar/reduced the maximum age for the Indian Civil Service Examination from 21 to 19 years/removed the import duties on British textiles which destroyed Indian Industries *(Any three points)*	[4]

Question 8		
(i)	Dandi March Civil Disobedience Movement 1930	[1+1+1]
(ii)	Created patriotic feelings/widened the base of freedom struggle/made people understand the significance of non-violence/there was improvement in the status of the depressed classes/women became part of the movement/new methods of propaganda like Prabhat Pheris were used /Congress took part in Legislative elections. *(Any three points)*	[3]
(iii)	Withdraw all ordinances and end prosecutions/release all political prisoners, except those guilty of violence / permit peaceful picketing of liquor and foreign cloth shops / restore the confiscated properties of satyagrahis / permit the free collection of salt by persons near seacoast. The Congress agreed to- Suspend the Civil Disobedience Movement/participate in the Second Round Table Conference/not to press for investigation into police atrocities. *(Any four points)*	[4]
Question 9		
(i)	Archduke Francis Ferdinand, the heir to the throne of Austria was assassinated at Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia on June 28, 1914. This assassination was carried out by a secret society called 'Union of Death' formed by extremist Serbian nationalists whose aim was to unite all Serbians into a single state. Austria served an ultimatum to Serbia making 11 demands. Serbia accepted most of them except those that would have led to the loss of sovereignty. On July 28 1914, Austria declared war on Serbia. This was the beginning of the First World War. *(Any three points of explanation)*	[1+1+1]
(ii)	Three ruling dynasties {Russia, Germany and Austria} were destroyed/The rule of Ottomans came to an end/Austria and Hungary became separate independent states/Monarchy collapsed and there was a rise of democracy / It was an end of European Supremacy /USA emerged as the world Superpower/Led to the rise of dictatorship/ Any other relevant point. *(Any three points)*	[3]
(iii)	It was declared guilty of aggression and had to pay war reparation of 33 billion dollars/The area of the Rhine valley was demilitarized and the German territory, west of Rhine was to be occupied by the Allied troops for 15 years/Danzig became a free port in Polish territory./Lost Alsace Lorraine to France/The Saar coal mines were given to France/ Lost all her colonies to the allies/The German force was restricted to 1 lakh,/ the Navy to 15,000 men /and 24 ships./The Air force and submarines were banned./German merchant ships were distributed among the	[4]

	allies/Germany had to supply huge quantities of coal to France / Germany ceded the Ruhr industrial areas to the allies/German colonies in the Pacific and the areas under her control in China were given to Japan/ Italy got only two small islands and the coastal region of Dalmatia/Belgium- Got Eupen-et –Malmedy / Germany ceded Schleswig to Denmark/Complete Independence was granted to Belgium, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia./The League of Nations was set up to maintain peace and prevent another war. *(Any four points)*	
Question 10		
(i)	Consists of 15 judges/ Elected for a period of 9 years/ Elected by General Assembly and Security Council/ Each judge is from different country/ Elects its President and Vice President for a period of 3 years/Appoints a registrar/Retired judge may be re-elected. *(Any three points)*	[3]
(ii)	To make recommendations in maintenance of international peace and security/discuss any question relating to peace and security/to make recommendations on any question within the scope of the charter/initiate studies/to make recommendations to promote international political, social and economic cooperation/make recommendations for peaceful settlement of disputes /receive and consider reports from Security Council and other organs /to consider and approve the budget of the United Nations/to elect the non-permanent members of the Security Council /The ECOSOC /Trusteeship Council and judges of the International Court of Justice/Uniting for peace/ to appoint Secretary-General on the recommendation of the Security Council/ Admission of new members /Amend the charter/Distribute the Contributions among member states/friendly relations between nations *(Any three points)*	[3]
(iii)	UNESCO Provides technical advice and assistance/provides funds to preserve monuments and works of art/prepared a World Heritage list /identifies monuments to be protected /protects rare manuscripts/encourages artistic creations in literature and fine arts/ cultural development through films/ Any other relevant point. *(Any three points)*	[1+3]