

ALPHALEARN STUDYLAB

CBSE / NCERT-ALIGNED WORKSHEET SERIES

Understanding Society

India and Beyond

Complete CBSE / NCERT-Aligned Worksheet Series

CLASS 9 — SOCIAL SCIENCE

Chapters 1–9 | History • Geography • Political Science • Economics

Concept Builder • Practice Worksheet • Exam Master — with full Answer Keys

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Each chapter contains three worksheets — Concept Builder, Practice Worksheet, and Exam Master — with complete answer keys.

ALPHALEARN STUDYLAB

CHAPTER 1

Understanding Social Science

Foundations of Social Science

Worksheet 1 — Concept Builder • Worksheet 2 — Practice Worksheet • Worksheet 3 — Exam Master

Each worksheet includes a complete Answer Key

AlphaLearn Studylab

CBSE / NCERT-Aligned Worksheet Series

Class 9 — Social Science

Understanding Society: India and Beyond, Grade 9 — Part 1

Chapter 1 — Understanding Social Science

This worksheet set contains three progressively structured worksheets — Concept Builder, Practice Worksheet, and Exam Master — designed to build complete mastery of Chapter 1 for school examinations, unit tests, periodic tests, half-yearly and annual examinations.

Contents

Worksheet 1 — Concept Builder (with Answer Key)

Worksheet 2 — Practice Worksheet (with Answer Key)

Worksheet 3 — Exam Master Worksheet (with Answer Key)

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Worksheet 1 — Concept Builder

Chapter 1: Understanding Social Science | Class 9 Social Science

Section A — Multiple Choice Questions (15 × 1 mark = 15 marks)

- Social Science is best defined as:
 - The study of natural phenomena
 - The systematic study of human society
 - The study of chemical reactions
 - The study of celestial bodies
- Which of the following is NOT one of the four core disciplines of Social Science studied in Grades 9–10?
 - Geography
 - History
 - Psychology
 - Political Science
- The concept of Pañchamahābhūtas explains the natural world as composed of how many fundamental elements?
 - Three
 - Four
 - Five
 - Six
- Which Sanskrit phrase means 'the world is one family'?
 - Itihāsa-purāṇa
 - Rājadharmā
 - Vasudhaiva kuṭumbakam
 - Pañchamahābhūtas
- The Arthaśāstra is attributed to:
 - Chandragupta Maurya
 - Kauṭilya
 - Ashoka
 - Samudragupta
- The Arthaśāstra was composed approximately how many years ago?
 - 1,000 years
 - 1,500 years
 - 2,300 years
 - 3,000 years
- Which discipline studies the Earth, its environments, and the relationship between people and their surroundings?
 - History
 - Geography
 - Economics
 - Political Science
- Which of the following is an example of a numismatic source?
 - Brahmi inscription
 - Palm-leaf manuscript
 - A coin issued by Samudragupta
 - A terracotta figurine
- Epigraphic sources are inscribed on:
 - Paper only
 - Durable materials such as stone, metal plates, or rock surfaces
 - Cloth
 - Palm leaves only
- The Mughal coin mentioned in the chapter, issued during Jahangir's reign, shows which zodiac sign?
 - Leo
 - Sagittarius
 - Aries
 - Scorpio
- Which tradition of preserving cultural memory in Bharat shares historical information through stories?
 - Numismatics
 - Itihāsa-purāṇa tradition
 - Epigraphy
 - Genealogy
- The Panchayati Raj system is an example of grassroots democracy studied under which discipline?
 - Economics
 - History
 - Political Science
 - Geography
- Which of the following texts addresses governance, law, and ethical leadership along with the Mahābhārata?
 - Śhukranīti
 - Sāmaveda
 - Tirukkuraḷ
 - Rigveda
- Economics primarily studies how societies:
 - Govern themselves
 - Produce, distribute, and utilise resources
 - Preserve cultural memory
 - Study landforms
- Which tool, mentioned in the chapter, helps students map their own village or city?
 - GIS software
 - NCERT's School Bhuvan portal
 - Google Earth
 - Census records

Section B — Fill in the Blanks (10 × 1 mark = 10 marks)

1. Social Science is the systematic study of _____.
2. The idea of _____ describes the natural world as composed of five fundamental elements.
3. _____, meaning 'the world is one family', expresses the interconnectedness of human societies.
4. The _____, attributed to Kauṭilya, examined administration, economic management, and taxation.
5. _____ studies the location and distribution of places, objects, materials, and people.
6. Material remains used to study the past are known as _____ sources.
7. _____ helps historians study the economy, chronology, rulers, trade, and culture through coins.
8. _____ is the study of governance, which informs us how and why power is distributed.
9. In India's villages, the _____ system embodies grassroots democracy.
10. Grade 9–10 Social Science primarily draws from four core disciplines: Geography, History, Political Science, and _____.

Section C — True or False (10 × 1 mark = 10 marks)

1. Social Science is a single subject rather than a group of related disciplines.
2. The Pañchamahābhūtas idea comes from Indian philosophical traditions.
3. The Arthaśāstra was composed about 2,300 years ago.
4. Geography does not use any tools such as maps or GIS.
5. Epigraphic sources include inscriptions on stone, metal plates, or rock surfaces.
6. Numismatic sources refer only to palm-leaf manuscripts.
7. Modern historiography increasingly relies on empirical evidence, such as carbon-14 dating.
8. Political power exists only within formal institutions, according to the chapter.
9. Economics is only about numbers and markets, not about well-being or justice.
10. Social Science connects the past, present, and future.

Section D — Match the Following (10 × 1 mark = 10 marks)

Column A	Column B
Geography	Historical source inscribed on stone, metal plates, or rock surfaces
History	Sanskrit phrase meaning 'the world is one family'
Political Science	Studies human past and societal change over time
Economics	Example of grassroots democracy in Indian villages

Column A	Column B
Arthaśhāstra	Explores production, distribution and use of resources
Pañchamahābhūtas	Historical source comprising coins, currency, or medals
Vasudhaiva kuṭumbakam	Studies Earth's environments and human-surroundings relationships
Numismatic source	Describes nature as composed of five fundamental elements
Epigraphic source	Analyses systems of governance, power and citizens' rights
Panchayati Raj	Foundational text on politics and administration attributed to Kauṭilya

Section E — One Word / One Sentence Answers (10 × 1 mark = 10 marks)

1. Name the Sanskrit phrase meaning 'the world is one family'.
2. Who is the Arthaśhāstra attributed to?
3. Name the system that embodies grassroots democracy in Indian villages.
4. What is the term for information collected through actual observation or experimentation?
5. Name the tradition of preserving cultural memory in Bharat through stories.
6. Which scientific technique helps establish historical timelines, as mentioned in the chapter?
7. Name the NCERT portal that helps students map their own village or city.
8. Name any one of the four core disciplines of Social Science apart from Geography, History and Economics.
9. What does GIS stand for, as mentioned in the chapter?
10. Name the ancient Tamil text of ethical wisdom mentioned as a literary source.

Section F — Assertion and Reason (5 × 1 mark = 5 marks)

Directions: Each question consists of an Assertion (A) and a Reason (R). Choose the correct option:

- (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (c) A is true, but R is false
- (d) A is false, but R is true

1.

Assertion (A): Social Science is not a single subject but a group of related disciplines.

Reason (R): Human society is complex, and no single field of study can fully explain it.

2.

Assertion (A): Geography relies only on social sciences and not on natural sciences.

Reason (R): Geography draws on both natural sciences and social sciences to answer questions about the world.

3.

Assertion (A): Numismatic sources include coins, currency, or medals.

Reason (R): Numismatics helps historians study the economy, chronology, rulers, trade, and culture of a civilisation.

4.

Assertion (A): Political power exists only within formal government institutions.

Reason (R): The Panchayati Raj system shows that political power also exists in social relationships and customs.

5.

Assertion (A): Economics is concerned only with numbers and markets.

Reason (R): Economics is also about well-being, equity, and justice.

Section G — Very Short Answer Questions (5 × 2 marks = 10 marks)

1. Define Social Science in one sentence. [2]
2. What are archaeological sources? Give one example from the chapter. [2]
3. Mention any two core disciplines of Social Science studied in Grades 9–10. [2]
4. What is meant by an epigraphic source? [2]
5. Why is the Arthaśhāstra considered an important text for understanding early governance in India? [2]

Worksheet 1 — Answer Key

Section A — MCQs

1-b 2-c 3-c 4-c 5-b 6-c 7-b 8-c 9-b 10-b 11-b 12-c 13-a 14-b 15-b

Section B — Fill in the Blanks

1. human society
2. Pañchamahābhūtas
3. Vasudhaiva kuṭumbakam
4. Arthaśhāstra
5. Geography
6. archaeological
7. Numismatics
8. Political Science
9. Panchayati Raj
10. Economics

Section C — True or False

1-False 2-True 3-True 4-False 5-True 6-False 7-True 8-False 9-False 10-True

Section D — Match the Following

1-g 2-c 3-i 4-e 5-j 6-h 7-b 8-f 9-a 10-d

Section E — One Word / One Sentence Answers

1. Vasudhaiva kuṭumbakam
2. Kauṭilya
3. Panchayati Raj
4. Empirical evidence
5. Itihāsa-purāṇa tradition
6. Carbon-14 dating
7. NCERT's School Bhuvan portal
8. Political Science (any one of Geography/History/Economics is also acceptable if the excluded pair is correct)
9. Geographical Information System
10. Tirukkural

Section F — Assertion and Reason

1-a 2-d 3-a 4-d 5-d

Section G — Very Short Answer Questions

1. Social Science is the systematic study of human society; it explains what happened, where, why, and how different aspects of life are interconnected.
2. Archaeological sources are material remains used to study the past, such as monuments, structures, artefacts, and art. Example: the terracotta figurine from the Sindhu-Sarasvatī Civilisation.

3. Any two of the following: Geography, History, Political Science, Economics.
4. An epigraphic source is a historical source consisting of texts, decrees, or records inscribed on durable materials such as stone, metal plates, or rock surfaces, providing direct evidence about past events, rulers, and administration.
5. The Arthaśhāstra, attributed to Kauṭilya, examined administration, economic management, taxation, and the duties of rulers toward their people, showing that systematic thinking about governance existed long before modern academic disciplines developed.

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Worksheet 2 — Practice Worksheet

Chapter 1: Understanding Social Science | Class 9 Social Science

Section A — Multiple Choice Questions (15 × 1 mark = 15 marks)

- Which subject group studies natural phenomena, as opposed to Social Science?
(a) Geography, History, Economics (b) Physics, Chemistry, Biology (c) Political Science, Sociology (d) Anthropology, Psychology
- The example of a drought affecting crops, incomes, relief measures, migration and coping traditions illustrates:
(a) The limitation of History alone (b) That society must be examined from multiple disciplinary perspectives (c) That Economics alone can explain all events (d) That Geography is unrelated to Economics
- Which discipline is described as part of the “broader Social Science family” but not one of the four core disciplines for Grades 9–10?
(a) History (b) Sociology (c) Economics (d) Geography
- The itihāsa-purāṇa tradition primarily helps in:
(a) Recording revenue documents (b) Preserving cultural memory through stories (c) Mapping geographical features (d) Studying coins
- Which of the following is a literary source mentioned in the chapter?
(a) Brahmi inscription (b) Terracotta figurine (c) Sāmaveda manuscript (d) Mughal coin
- The Sāmaveda manuscript referenced in the chapter is housed at:
(a) Hampi Temple (b) National Museum, New Delhi (c) Prasanna Virupaksha Temple (d) NCERT Library
- Who issued the coin mentioned as a numismatic source from the 4th century CE?
(a) Jahangir (b) Krishnadeva Raya (c) Samudragupta (d) Kauṭilya
- The Kannada inscription of Emperor Krishnadeva Raya mentioned in the chapter is located at:
(a) National Museum, New Delhi (b) Prasanna Virupaksha Temple, Hampi (c) Red Fort, Delhi (d) Sanchi Stupa
- Which idea helps explain how environment influences settlement patterns, occupations, architecture, and food habits?
(a) Vasudhaiva kuṭumbakam (b) Rājadharmā (c) Pañchamahābhūtas (d) Itihāsa-purāṇa
- Which of these correctly matches a discipline with its focus?
(a) History — systems of governance (b) Economics — production, distribution and utilisation of resources (c) Geography — ethical leadership (d) Political Science — landforms and climate
- According to the chapter, colonial rule in India resulted in:
(a) Rapid industrial growth (b) Widespread poverty, recurrent famines and decline of traditional industries (c) Expansion of Panchayati Raj (d) Growth of the itihāsa-purāṇa tradition
- The concept of rājadharmā refers to:
(a) Economic well-being (b) The duties of the ruler (c) Moral duty of citizens (d) A type of numismatic source
- Which statement best explains why the study of Social Science is described as a “journey”?

- (a) It moves from understanding society's evolution to analysing its present and imagining its future (b) It only studies ancient history (c) It focuses solely on examinations (d) It has no connection to citizenship

14. Genealogical records are used primarily as sources for which discipline?

- (a) Economics (b) History (c) Political Science (d) Geography

15. Which statement about the four core disciplines is correct?

- (a) They function in isolation from each other (b) Each discipline asks different questions, yet all are interconnected (c) Only History and Geography are interconnected (d) Economics has no relation to Political Science

Section B — Short Answer Questions (10 × 2 marks = 20 marks)

1. Explain how Social Science is part of your everyday life, using two examples from the chapter. [2]
2. Differentiate between empirical evidence and traditions that emphasise moral and philosophical insight in the study of History. [2]
3. Explain the significance of the Arthaśhāstra in understanding early Indian governance. [2]
4. What is the importance of tools such as maps, globes, and GIS in the study of Geography? [2]
5. Describe any two types of sources used in History writing, other than archaeological sources. [2]
6. How does the concept of Pañchamahābhūtas explain the relationship between environment and society? [2]
7. Explain the meaning and significance of vasudhaiva kuṭumbakam. [2]
8. How does the Panchayati Raj system reflect ideas from India's early political thought? [2]
9. Describe how a single event, such as a drought, can be studied through multiple disciplines of Social Science. [2]
10. Why does modern historiography rely on scientific methods such as carbon-14 dating? [2]

Section C — Long Answer Questions (10 × 4 marks = 40 marks)

1. Social Science is described as “not a single subject but a group of related disciplines.” Explain this statement with reference to the four core disciplines studied in Grades 9–10. [4]
2. Discuss the various types of historical sources described in the chapter, giving one example of each. [4]
3. “Early reflections on governance in India linked political authority with public welfare and ethical responsibility.” Discuss this statement with reference to Indian political thought. [4]
4. Explain how Geography helps us understand India's historical role as a hub of global interaction. [4]
5. Trace India's economic journey from a leading global economy to the challenges faced after independence, as described in the chapter. [4]
6. Discuss the importance of studying Social Science for participation in a democratic society. [4]
7. Explain the role of the itihāsa-purāṇa tradition and modern historiography in understanding the past, bringing out the differences between them. [4]
8. “Society has not always been as it is today.” Discuss how human communities evolved over time, according to the chapter. [4]
9. Discuss the future relevance of Social Science in addressing challenges such as climate change and sustainable development. [4]

10. Describe the four core disciplines of Social Science and explain how they are interconnected, using a suitable example. [4]

Section D — HOTS Questions (5 × 3 marks = 15 marks)

1. If a new highway is constructed connecting a remote village to a city, analyse how this single development could be studied through the lens of all four core disciplines of Social Science. [3]
2. "Social Science is not about memorising dates, maps, or definitions." Critically examine this statement in light of the skills the subject aims to develop. [3]
3. Compare the itihāsa-purāṇa tradition with modern historiography. Which approach do you think offers a more complete understanding of the past, and why? [3]
4. Analyse why the chapter states that "political power exists not only within formal institutions but also in social relationships, customs, and ideas of legitimacy." [3]
5. Evaluate the statement: "Understanding economics helps us recognise both achievements and challenges." Support your answer with examples from India's economic history. [3]

Section E — Competency-Based Questions (5 × 2 marks = 10 marks)

1. You are asked to prepare a short report on a change in your locality using the 'Let's Analyse' approach from the chapter. List the four questions you would use to guide your discussion. [2]
2. Suppose you find an old coin while cleaning your grandparents' house. Explain what type of historical source it would be classified as and what information it might reveal. [2]
3. Your class is divided into four groups to study the impact of a new factory in a nearby town, with each group representing one core discipline of Social Science. Suggest one question each group might investigate. [2]
4. Using the NCERT School Bhuvan portal mentioned in the chapter, explain how a student could use geospatial tools to study their own village or city. [2]
5. A friend says, "History is just about memorising dates of kings and wars." Frame a response, using ideas from the chapter, to help them understand History as a discipline. [2]

Section F — Source-Based / Case-Based Questions (5 × 3 marks = 15 marks)

Case 1.

"A drought affects crops (environment), farmers' incomes (economy), government relief measures (politics), migration to cities (society), and traditional ways of coping with scarcity (culture)."

- (i) Name the four core disciplines of Social Science that would help explain the effects of a drought.
- (j) Why does the chapter say that "no single field of study can fully explain" human society?
- (k) Suggest one question that a student of Political Science might ask about a drought situation.

Case 2.

"The Arthaśhāstra, attributed to Kauṭilya, composed about 2,300 years ago, examined administration, economic management, taxation, and the duties of rulers toward their people."

- (i) What does this passage reveal about early Indian political thought?
- (j) Name one other ancient Indian text mentioned in the chapter that addresses governance and ethical leadership.
- (k) What does the existence of such texts tell us about the history of Social Science as a field of study?

Case 3.

“Geography views the world as a system of interdependencies and adopts a holistic approach by integrating spatial perspectives with temporal perspectives.”

- (i) What is meant by ‘spatial perspective’ and ‘temporal perspective’ in Geography?
- (j) Name two tools used by Geography as a discipline, as mentioned in the chapter.
- (k) How does Geography draw upon both natural and social sciences?

Case 4.

“History writing draws on a wide range of sources... archaeological and literary traditions such as travelogues, memoirs, correspondence, genealogical records, folklore and oral traditions, and revenue documents.”

- (i) Classify the sources mentioned above into literary and archaeological categories.
- (j) Why do historians use multiple types of sources rather than relying on just one?
- (k) Name one epigraphic and one numismatic source mentioned elsewhere in the chapter.

Case 5.

“Economic development, therefore, remains a central national goal. Understanding economics helps us recognise both achievements and challenges.”

- (i) According to the chapter, what progress has India made in recent decades?
- (j) What challenges remain, as mentioned in the passage?
- (k) Why does the chapter state that economics is about ‘well-being, equity, and justice’ and not only about numbers and markets?

Section G — Compare and Contrast Questions (5 × 3 marks = 15 marks)

1. Compare Geography and History as disciplines in terms of their focus and the questions they ask. [3]
2. Compare Political Science and Economics with respect to what each discipline studies. [3]
3. Compare epigraphic sources and numismatic sources as types of historical evidence. [3]
4. Compare the itihāsa-purāṇa tradition with modern historiography in terms of their methods of understanding the past. [3]
5. Compare literary sources and archaeological sources used in History writing, with one example of each. [3]

Section H — Map-Based / Timeline Questions

1. On an outline map of India, mark and label Hampi (Karnataka), where the Kannada inscription of Krishnadeva Raya is found, and New Delhi, where the Sāmaveda manuscript is preserved at the National Museum. [2]

2. Prepare a simple timeline placing the following in chronological order: Arthaśhāstra (Kauṭilya) — Samudragupta's coin (4th century CE) — Krishnadeva Raya's inscription — Jahangir's Mughal coin. [2]

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Worksheet 2 — Answer Key

Section A — MCQs

1-b 2-b 3-b 4-b 5-c 6-b 7-c 8-b 9-c 10-b 11-b 12-b 13-a 14-b 15-b

Section B — Short Answer Questions

1. Social Science shapes daily life through systems such as the house built with materials sourced from different places, and the food that reaches our plate after being harvested, processed, transported, and sold — both governed by economic and geographical processes.
2. Empirical evidence is information gathered through actual observation or experimentation (e.g., carbon-14 dating), while moral and philosophical traditions rely on cultural memory and ethical meaning rather than scientific verification.
3. The Arthaśhāstra shows that systematic thinking about administration, taxation, the army, and the welfare of the people existed about 2,300 years ago, long before modern academic disciplines developed.
4. Tools such as maps, globes, and GIS help Geography investigate spatial questions — where things are located, why, and how places affect one another over time.
5. Any two of: literary sources (travelogues, memoirs, correspondence), genealogical records, folklore and oral traditions, revenue documents, epigraphic sources, numismatic sources.
6. Pañchamahābhūtas describes nature as an interconnected system of five elements, helping explain how environment shapes settlement patterns, occupations, architecture, food habits, and health practices.
7. Vasudhaiva kuṭumbakam means 'the world is one family' and expresses the interconnectedness of human societies across regions and cultures — central to Social Science's study of global relationships.
8. The Panchayati Raj system reflects the ancient idea that power is a responsibility linked to public welfare, promoting local self-governance and citizen participation, as rooted in early Indian political thought.
9. A drought can be studied as an environmental event (Geography), an economic loss (Economics), a governance response (Political Science), a trigger for migration (Sociology/Society), and through cultural coping practices (culture).
10. Modern historiography relies on scientific methods such as carbon-14 dating because they provide objective, verifiable evidence to establish accurate timelines, supplementing traditions based on memory and interpretation.

Section C — Long Answer Questions (key points)

1. Explain complexity of society → four disciplines (Geography, History, Political Science, Economics) → each studies a distinct aspect → together give comprehensive understanding → example of drought.
2. Archaeological sources (monuments, artefacts — terracotta figurine); literary sources (Sāmaveda, Tirukkural); epigraphic sources (Brahmi inscription, Krishnadeva Raya inscription); numismatic sources (Samudragupta's coin, Jahangir's coin).
3. Early texts (Vedas, Upaniṣads, Purāṇas) linked dharma, artha, rājadharmā → Arthaśhāstra detailed governance, taxation, army, welfare → power viewed as responsibility, not privilege → Panchayati Raj as living legacy.
4. Geography integrates spatial and temporal perspectives, draws on natural and social sciences → explains India's long coastline enabling contact with Africa, Europe, Southeast Asia → hub of trade and cultural exchange.
5. India historically a leading economy, centre of trade and maritime activity → colonial rule caused poverty, famines, decline of industries → post-independence rebuilding → progress in infrastructure, education, poverty reduction → challenges of income growth and equitable distribution remain.
6. Understanding governance and decision-making enables responsible participation → helps citizens question issues like environment, health, employment → connects past decisions to present and future choices.
7. Itihāsa-purāṇa tradition preserves cultural memory through stories, giving meaning and identity; modern historiography relies on empirical evidence and scientific tools (carbon-14 dating, archaeology) for verification — both contribute to understanding the past differently.

8. Early communities depended directly on nature → learnt farming, domestication, settlements, tools, trade, governance → villages grew into towns and cities → new ideas and cultural exchange transformed ways of life.
9. Social Science will help address climate change, sustainable development, social harmony, equitable resource use, responsible use of technology → builds informed, thoughtful citizens rooted in cultural traditions.
10. Geography (environment-society relationship), History (change over time), Political Science (governance and power), Economics (production and distribution) → interconnected, e.g., a drought links all four.

Section D — HOTS Questions (key points)

1. Geography: changed accessibility and land use; History: records the change over time; Political Science: government decision-making and policy; Economics: impact on trade, employment, and local markets.
2. The statement is valid — the chapter emphasises observation, questioning, evidence-based reasoning, and interconnected understanding rather than rote learning; students should support with examples like the 'Let's Analyse' activity.
3. Itihāsa-purāṇa offers cultural meaning and identity through stories; modern historiography offers verifiable, evidence-based timelines; a complete understanding often combines both — cultural memory and empirical verification.
4. Political power operates through customs, social hierarchy, and legitimacy (not just laws) — Panchayati Raj shows how tradition and grassroots relationships also carry political authority.
5. India's history shows both achievement (post-independence growth, poverty reduction, education) and continuing challenges (income growth, equitable distribution) — economics helps balance efficiency, fairness, and sustainability.

Section E — Competency-Based Questions (key points)

1. What was the situation earlier? What has changed? What might have caused this change? How has it affected people's lives?
2. It would be a numismatic source; it could reveal information about the ruler, period, economy, trade, and culture of the time it was issued.
3. Geography group: how did the site/environment change? History group: how has the area changed over time? Political Science group: what approvals/policies allowed the factory? Economics group: what is its impact on incomes and employment?
4. The portal allows students to zoom into satellite imagery of their own village/city, helping them observe land use, settlement patterns, and geographical features directly, applying GIS-based learning.
5. History also explains why events occurred, how people lived, and how the past shapes the present — it uses varied sources (archaeological, literary, epigraphic, numismatic) beyond just dates.

Section F — Case-Based Questions (key points)

- Case 1: (i) Geography, History, Political Science, Economics (ii) any one of environment/economy/governance/society/culture (iii) e.g., What relief measures should the government provide?
- Case 2: (i) Systematic thinking on administration, taxation, and rulers' duties existed long ago (ii) Mahābhārata or Śhukranīti (iii) Social Science's concerns have deep historical roots predating modern disciplines.
- Case 3: (i) Spatial = location and its significance; Temporal = change over time (ii) any two of maps, globes, atlases, GIS, infographics (iii) it combines natural sciences (Physics, Chemistry, Biology) with social sciences (Political Science, Economics, History).
- Case 4: (i) Literary: travelogues, memoirs, correspondence, folklore/oral traditions; Archaeological: (separately described) monuments, artefacts (ii) multiple sources cross-verify facts and reduce bias (iii) epigraphic — Brahmi inscription; numismatic — Samudragupta's coin.
- Case 5: (i) improvements in infrastructure, education, technology, poverty reduction, rising life expectancy (ii) increasing incomes and ensuring benefits reach all sections (iii) because economics affects well-being, equity, and justice, not just numbers.

Section G — Compare and Contrast (key points)

1. Geography studies where and why things are located and how places interact; History studies human past and change over time.
2. Political Science studies governance, power and rights; Economics studies production, distribution and use of resources.
3. Epigraphic sources are inscriptions on stone/metal; numismatic sources are coins/currency — both provide direct evidence but of different kinds (administrative/textual vs. economic/chronological).
4. Itihāsa-purāṇa relies on stories and cultural meaning; modern historiography relies on empirical, scientific evidence such as carbon-14 dating.
5. Literary sources (e.g., Sāmaveda manuscript) are textual; archaeological sources (e.g., terracotta figurine) are material remains — both are used together to reconstruct the past.

Section H — Map-Based / Timeline Questions

1. Hampi is located in Karnataka (south India); New Delhi is located in north India — both should be correctly plotted and labelled on the outline map.
2. Chronological order: Arthaśhāstra (Kauṭilya, ~2,300 years ago) → Samudragupta's coin (4th century CE) → Krishnadeva Raya's inscription (Vijayanagara period, 16th century CE) → Jahangir's Mughal coin (17th century CE).

Worksheet 3 — Exam Master Worksheet

Chapter 1: Understanding Social Science | Class 9 Social Science

Section A — Multiple Choice Questions (20 × 1 mark = 20 marks)

- Social Science, unlike Physics, Chemistry, and Biology, focuses on:
 - The natural world
 - Society, institutions, cultures and human interactions
 - Chemical compounds
 - Planetary motion
- Which of the following best describes the “holistic approach” of Geography?
 - Studying only physical landforms
 - Integrating spatial and temporal perspectives
 - Studying only human population
 - Ignoring natural sciences
- The duties of a ruler in Indian political thought are referred to as:
 - Artha
 - Dharma
 - Rājadharmā
 - Itihāsa
- Which ancient text, along with the Mahābhārata, addresses governance, law and ethical leadership?
 - Tirukkuraḷ
 - Śhukranīti
 - Sāmaveda
 - Rigveda
- The terracotta figurine mentioned as an archaeological source belongs to which civilisation?
 - Gupta period
 - Sindhu-Sarasvatī Civilisation
 - Mughal period
 - Vijayanagara Empire
- A Brahmi inscription mentioned in the chapter belongs to which period?
 - Mughal period
 - Gupta period
 - Vijayanagara period
 - Maurya period
- Which of these is NOT mentioned as a tool used by Geography?
 - Maps
 - GIS
 - Carbon-14 dating
 - Atlases
- According to the chapter, what does Economics explore apart from production and distribution?
 - Decision-making by consumers, producers and governments
 - Only government policies
 - Only consumer choices
 - Only industrial output
- The Panchayati Raj system is given as an example of:
 - A numismatic source
 - Grassroots democracy
 - An epigraphic source
 - A literary tradition
- Which phrase best captures the interdependence of human societies across regions and cultures?
 - Rājadharmā
 - Vasudhaiva kuṭumbakam
 - Itihāsa-purāṇa
 - Artha
- The study of the human past to understand people’s experiences, values and changes over time is called:
 - Geography
 - History
 - Economics
 - Political Science
- Which of the following is an example of a genealogical record?
 - A coin
 - A document tracing family lineage and ancestry
 - A stone inscription
 - A map
- The chapter states that early thinkers in India valued discussion, questioning, and logical reasoning through:
 - Observation, reflection and dialogue
 - Only religious rituals
 - Only warfare strategy
 - Only trade practices
- Who composed the Arthaśāstra?
 - Samudragupta
 - Kauṭilya
 - Krishnadeva Raya
 - Jahangir
- Which of these is a core discipline of Social Science studied in Grades 9–10?
 - Anthropology
 - Psychology
 - Political Science
 - Sociology
- The chapter mentions that India’s long coastline facilitated contact with:
 - Only Europe
 - Africa, Europe, and Southeast Asia
 - Only Southeast Asia
 - Only Africa
- Which type of source would a Mughal coin showing a zodiac sign be classified as?

- (a) Epigraphic source (b) Literary source (c) Numismatic source (d) Archaeological monument

18. What does the chapter identify as the foundation of Social Science?

- (a) Understanding connections between environment, institutions, economic activities and traditions (b) Memorising historical dates (c) Studying only ancient civilisations (d) Studying only modern governments

19. According to the chapter, which skill is essential for addressing shared societal challenges such as environmental protection?

- (a) Rote memorisation (b) Careful questioning and reasoning (c) Ignoring evidence (d) Avoiding public issues

20. The Grade 9 Social Science textbook is designed to provide a broad introduction to how many core disciplines?

- (a) Two (b) Three (c) Four (d) Five

Section B — Assertion and Reason (10 × 1 mark = 10 marks)

Directions: Each question consists of an Assertion (A) and a Reason (R). Choose the correct option:

- (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A
 (b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A
 (c) A is true, but R is false
 (d) A is false, but R is true

1.

Assertion (A): The itihāsa-purāṇa tradition only records historical facts without cultural meaning.

Reason (R): This tradition reinforces enduring ideals and values through stories.

2.

Assertion (A): Geography draws on both natural sciences and social sciences.

Reason (R): Geography examines both the physical features of the Earth's surface and the human communities that inhabit it.

3.

Assertion (A): Modern historiography relies solely on moral and philosophical insight.

Reason (R): Modern historiography increasingly relies on empirical evidence and scientific methods such as carbon-14 dating.

4.

Assertion (A): The Arthaśhāstra is considered a foundational text on politics and administration.

Reason (R): It details how a state should be governed, how taxes should be collected, and how rulers should ensure the welfare of the people.

5.

Assertion (A): Numismatic sources are less useful than epigraphic sources for studying history.

Reason (R): Numismatics helps historians study the economy, chronology, rulers, trade, political boundaries and culture of a civilisation.

6.

Assertion (A): Colonial rule strengthened India's traditional industries.

Reason (R): Colonial rule disrupted India's economic progress, resulting in widespread poverty and recurrent famines.

7.
Assertion (A): Social Science helps us understand only what happened in the past.
Reason (R): Social Science explains why events occur, how societies function, and how the past shapes the present and future.
8.
Assertion (A): The Panchayati Raj system shows that political power exists only in formal institutions.
Reason (R): Political power also exists in social relationships, customs, and ideas of legitimacy.
9.
Assertion (A): Economics is not only about numbers and markets.
Reason (R): Economics is also concerned with well-being, equity, and justice.
10.
Assertion (A): Each discipline of Social Science functions independently without any connection to others.
Reason (R): A drought can be studied through environment, economy, politics, society, and culture simultaneously.

Section C — Case-Based Questions (5 × 4 marks = 20 marks)

Case 1.

"Villages developed into towns, and towns grew into cities. New ideas, inventions, and cultural exchanges gradually transformed ways of life."

- (i) What does this passage describe about the evolution of society?
- (j) Name one factor mentioned in the chapter that contributed to this transformation.
- (k) How does Social Science help us study such long-term changes?

Case 2.

"The concept of the Pañchamahābhūtas describes the natural world as an interconnected system in which human life is embedded."

- (i) Name the five elements that make up the Pañchamahābhūtas.
- (j) How does this idea help explain settlement patterns and food habits?
- (k) Which modern-day challenges does the chapter suggest this idea remains relevant to?

Case 3.

"History writing draws on a wide range of sources to understand the social realities of the past."

- (i) Classify any four sources mentioned in the chapter under appropriate categories.
- (j) Why is it important for historians to use multiple sources?
- (k) Give one example each of an archaeological and a literary source from the chapter.

Case 4.

"In a democratic society, citizens play an active role in public life. Laws, rights, and responsibilities guide how people live together."

- (i) According to the chapter, why is it important to understand how governments function?
- (j) How does Social Science strengthen a citizen's ability to think about shared challenges?
- (k) Name one contemporary issue mentioned in the chapter that requires informed questioning.

Case 5.

"As societies change rapidly, the importance of Social Science continues to grow."

- (i) List two factors mentioned in the chapter that are reshaping how people live and interact.
- (j) What skills does the chapter say are required to understand these changes?
- (k) According to the chapter, what will Social Science help societies address in the years ahead?

Section D — Short Answer Questions (10 × 2 marks = 20 marks)

1. Define History as a discipline, according to the chapter. [2]
2. What is the significance of the Sindhu-Sarasvatī Civilisation terracotta figurine as an archaeological source? [2]
3. Explain the meaning of rājadharmā. [2]
4. What role do consumers, producers and governments play in Economics? [2]
5. How did colonial rule affect India's economy, according to the chapter? [2]
6. What is the purpose of the "Let's Analyse" activity in the chapter? [2]
7. Name any two ancient Indian texts that discuss justice, authority, and social order. [2]
8. What does the chapter mean by describing the world as "one connected story rather than a collection of separate pieces"? [2]
9. Why does the chapter say that political power exists in social relationships and customs, not just formal institutions? [2]
10. What is the relevance of GIS in the study of Geography? [2]

Section E — Long Answer Questions (10 × 4 marks = 40 marks)

1. "Human society is complex, and no single field of study can fully explain it." Explain this statement using the example of a drought, as given in the chapter. [4]
2. Discuss the four types of historical sources mentioned in the chapter (archaeological, literary, epigraphic, numismatic), with examples of each. [4]
3. Explain the contribution of the Arthaśhāstra to India's early political and economic thought. [4]
4. "Geography helps answer questions like why India has historically been a hub of global interaction." Elaborate with reference to the chapter. [4]
5. Describe India's economic journey from ancient times to the present, as outlined in the chapter. [4]
6. Explain how Social Science prepares students to be responsible and informed citizens. [4]
7. Discuss the significance of the itihāsa-purāṇa tradition and compare it with the methods of modern historiography. [4]
8. "Society has not always been as it is today, and over thousands of years, it has changed greatly." Trace this evolution as described in the chapter. [4]

9. Explain the interconnection between the four core disciplines of Social Science with a suitable real-life example. [4]
10. Discuss the future role of Social Science in addressing challenges such as climate change, migration, and technology. [4]

Section F — Application-Based Questions (5 × 3 marks = 15 marks)

1. Your locality faces frequent flooding every monsoon. Explain how each of the four core disciplines of Social Science could help study and address this issue. [3]
2. You find a stone inscription in an old temple near your home. Explain what steps a historian might take to study it and what type of source it represents. [3]
3. Your school is planning a Panchayati Raj-style student council. Explain how this reflects the political ideas discussed in the chapter. [3]
4. A local NGO wants to study the economic impact of a new industry in your town. Suggest two questions they could investigate, based on the chapter's description of Economics. [3]
5. Using the idea of vasudhaiva kuṭumbakam, explain how India's approach to global cooperation might be shaped by this tradition. [3]

Section G — Higher Order Thinking Questions (5 × 3 marks = 15 marks)

1. "Social Science is, therefore, a journey — from understanding how societies evolved, to analysing how they function today, to imagining how they can become better in the future." Critically discuss this statement. [3]
2. Evaluate the claim that ancient Indian texts such as the Arthaśhāstra show that "systematic thinking about governance and the economy existed long before modern academic disciplines developed." [3]
3. Analyse how the four core disciplines of Social Science would differ in their approach if asked to study the same event: the construction of a new dam. [3]
4. "This understanding builds respect and cooperation among communities... it helps us recognise how Indian culture binds this diversity together through an underlying unity." Critically examine this statement in the context of India's diversity. [3]
5. Compare and evaluate the reliability of literary sources versus archaeological sources in reconstructing historical events. [3]

Worksheet 3 — Answer Key

Section A — MCQs

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

Section B — Assertion and Reason

1-d 2-a 3-d 4-a 5-d
6-d 7-d 8-d 9-a 10-d

Section C — Case-Based Questions (key points)

Case 1: (i) The gradual evolution of human settlements from villages to towns to cities (ii) new ideas, inventions, or cultural exchanges (iii) it traces continuity and change through observation, reasoning, and evidence.

Case 2: (i) Earth (Pṛithvī), water (Āpaḥ), fire (Agni), air (Vāyu), and space (Ākāśha) (ii) it shows how environment shapes where and how people settle and what they eat (iii) environmental challenges facing societies today.

Case 3: (i) e.g., archaeological (monuments, artefacts), literary (travelogues, memoirs), epigraphic (inscriptions), numismatic (coins) (ii) to cross-verify facts and build well-supported explanations (iii) archaeological — terracotta figurine; literary — Sāmaveda manuscript.

Case 4: (i) it helps citizens participate responsibly in civic life (ii) it teaches informed questioning about causes, effects and solutions to shared problems (iii) e.g., environmental protection, public health, employment, or urban growth.

Case 5: (i) any two of new technologies, expanding cities, environmental concerns, migration, global connections (ii) careful observation, asking questions, examining evidence, recognising connections (iii) climate change, sustainable development, social harmony, equitable use of resources.

Section D — Short Answer Questions

- History is the study of the human past, through which societies seek to understand people's experiences, values, and changes over time.
- It is an archaeological source that provides material evidence of the Sindhu-Sarasvatī Civilisation, helping historians understand its art, culture, and way of life.
- Rājadharmā refers to the duties of the ruler, linking political authority with public welfare and ethical responsibility in early Indian political thought.
- Consumers decide what to buy, producers decide what and how much to produce, and governments frame policies to balance goals such as growth, stability, efficiency and fairness.
- Colonial rule disrupted India's economic progress, causing widespread poverty, recurrent famines, and the decline of traditional industries.
- It encourages students to observe changes in their locality, discuss causes and effects in groups, and present findings, building skills of observation and reasoning.
- Any two of: the Vedas, Upaniṣads, Purāṇas, Mahābhārata, Śhukranīti, Arthaśhāstra.
- It means that different aspects of society — people, places, systems — are all interconnected, and Social Science helps us see these connections rather than viewing them as isolated facts.
- Because customs, social relationships, and ideas of legitimacy (e.g., seen in the Panchayati Raj system) also shape how power is exercised, not only formal government structures.
- GIS (Geographical Information System) helps Geography analyse spatial data, map locations, and investigate geographical questions using digital tools.

Section E — Long Answer Questions (key points)

1. A drought affects environment, economy, politics, society, culture simultaneously → shows why multiple disciplines are needed → no single subject captures full complexity.
2. Archaeological (terracotta figurine, sculptures); Literary (Sāmaveda, Tirukkural); Epigraphic (Brahmi inscription, Krishnadeva Raya inscription); Numismatic (Samudragupta's coin, Jahangir's coin).
3. Arthaśhāstra examined administration, economic management, taxation, army, and rulers' duties → foundational text linking politics with economics and ethics → shows early systematic governance thought.
4. Geography combines spatial and temporal perspectives and draws on natural and social sciences → explains India's coastline enabling trade links with Africa, Europe and Southeast Asia.
5. Ancient India: leading economy, trade and maritime hub → colonial disruption: poverty, famines, decline of industries → post-independence rebuilding → recent progress in infrastructure, education, poverty reduction → challenges of income growth and equitable distribution.
6. Learning how governments function and decisions are made prepares students for responsible civic participation; developing questioning skills helps address shared challenges like environment and public health.
7. Itihāsa-purāṇa: cultural memory through stories, moral/philosophical insight; Modern historiography: empirical evidence, scientific dating methods — together, they offer complementary understandings of the past.
8. Early communities depended on nature → learnt farming, domestication, settlement-building, tool development, trade, governance → villages to towns to cities → new ideas and cultural exchange transformed life.
9. Example: a new dam — Geography (land and water use), History (change over time), Political Science (policy and governance), Economics (impact on livelihoods and production) — all interconnected.
10. Social Science will help address climate change, sustainable development, social harmony, equitable resource use, and responsible use of new technologies, preparing informed and thoughtful citizens.

Section F — Application-Based Questions (key points)

1. Geography: study terrain and drainage; History: examine past flood patterns; Political Science: evaluate government relief and planning; Economics: assess impact on livelihoods and cost of damage.
2. The inscription would be classified as an epigraphic source; a historian might photograph, decipher the script, analyse the material, and cross-check with other sources.
3. It reflects the idea of grassroots democracy and shared responsibility, similar to the Panchayati Raj system, giving students a voice in decision-making.
4. e.g., How has the industry affected local employment? How has it affected prices and the local market for goods and services?
5. India's cooperative approach to global issues (such as international aid or diplomacy) can be seen as an expression of viewing the world as one interconnected family.

Section G — Higher Order Thinking Questions (key points)

1. The statement highlights a progression: understanding the past, analysing the present, envisioning the future — students should discuss each stage with examples from the chapter.
2. The Arthaśhāstra's detailed treatment of administration, taxation, and welfare shows structured governance thinking predates modern disciplines — supports the claim strongly.
3. Geography: land and environmental impact; History: how such projects historically shaped regions; Political Science: policy and approval processes; Economics: costs, benefits, and livelihood impacts.
4. India's diversity in language, custom, and occupation stems from geographical, historical, cultural and economic factors; shared cultural values like vasudhaiva kuṭumbakam foster underlying unity despite diversity.
5. Literary sources provide direct textual accounts but may reflect the author's perspective; archaeological sources offer physical evidence but require interpretation — both are more reliable when used together.