

Class X - Social Science

DEVELOPMENT

CBSE NOTES

DEVELOPMENT - Practice Worksheet

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Practice Questions

1. What is development and why do different people have different notions of development?

Hint: Think about the different aspirations of people based on their socio-economic status.

Solution: Development refers to the process of improving the quality of life and economic well-being of people. Different people have different notions of development because their aspirations and life situations vary. For example, a landless rural laborer may desire more days of work and better wages, while a prosperous farmer may want higher support prices for crops. These differing goals arise from their unique circumstances and needs. Development is not just about income but also includes non-material aspects like freedom, security, and respect. Thus, what constitutes development for one may not be the same for another, leading to varied perspectives.

2. Explain the limitations of using per capita income as a measure of development.

Hint: Consider the examples of Kerala and Haryana from the textbook.

Solution: Per capita income, while useful for comparing countries, has several limitations. It does not account for income distribution, meaning a country with high average income may still have significant inequality. For instance, Country A and Country B in the textbook example have the same average income, but Country B has extreme inequality. Additionally, per capita income ignores non-material aspects of development like health, education, and environmental quality. Kerala, with lower per capita income than Haryana, outperforms in health and education indicators. Thus, relying solely on per capita income can provide a misleading picture of development.

3. How do public facilities contribute to the development of a country?

Hint: Refer to the comparison between Kerala and Haryana in the textbook.

Solution: Public facilities like healthcare, education, and sanitation play a crucial role in development by ensuring a better quality of life. For example, Kerala's high literacy rate and low infant mortality rate are attributed to its robust public health and education systems. These facilities are often provided collectively, making them more affordable and accessible. They also promote social equity by benefiting all sections of society, especially the disadvantaged. Public facilities thus

complement income by addressing essential needs that money alone cannot buy, contributing to overall development.

4. What is the Human Development Index (HDI) and why is it considered a better measure of development than per capita income?

Hint: Look at the HDI data for India and its neighbors in the textbook.

Solution: The Human Development Index (HDI) is a composite measure that includes life expectancy, education, and per capita income. It is considered better than per capita income alone because it provides a more holistic view of development. For instance, Sri Lanka, with a lower per capita income than India, has a higher HDI due to better health and education outcomes. HDI emphasizes that development is not just about economic growth but also about improving human well-being. This makes it a more comprehensive and accurate indicator of a country's development status.

5. Discuss the concept of sustainability of development with examples.

Hint: Think about the examples of groundwater and crude oil from the textbook.

Solution: Sustainability of development means meeting present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet theirs. For example, overuse of groundwater in Punjab and Western U.P. threatens water availability for future use. Similarly, crude oil reserves are finite and will exhaust if current consumption rates continue. Sustainable development involves using renewable resources wisely and finding alternatives for non-renewable ones. It ensures long-term environmental health and economic growth, balancing ecological, economic, and social needs.

6. Why is the issue of environmental sustainability important for development?

Hint: Consider the consequences of overusing natural resources.

Solution: Environmental sustainability is crucial for development because environmental degradation can undermine economic progress and quality of life. For instance, pollution from industrial activities can harm health and reduce productivity. Overuse of natural resources like groundwater can lead to scarcity, affecting agriculture and livelihoods. Sustainable practices ensure that resources are available for future generations, maintaining ecological balance. Without

sustainability, development becomes short-lived and inequitable, harming both present and future populations. Thus, integrating environmental concerns into development planning is essential for long-term prosperity.

7. Compare the developmental goals of a rural woman from a land-owning family and an urban unemployed youth.

Hint: Refer to Table 1.1 in the textbook for developmental goals.

Solution: A rural woman from a land-owning family may aspire for gender equality, education, and decision-making power within the household. She might want the same freedoms as her brother, such as pursuing higher education or choosing a career. In contrast, an urban unemployed youth may prioritize securing a stable job, financial independence, and social respect. While both seek better lives, their specific goals differ due to their distinct contexts. The woman's goals are shaped by gender norms, while the youth's are influenced by economic challenges. Both highlight the diversity in developmental aspirations.

8. Explain how income and other goals are interrelated in the process of development.

Hint: Think about how non-material goals can impact economic outcomes.

Solution: Income and other goals like freedom, security, and respect are interrelated in development. Higher income can provide access to better education and healthcare, improving quality of life. Conversely, non-material goals like freedom and security can enhance productivity, leading to higher income. For example, women's empowerment can increase their participation in the workforce, boosting household income. Similarly, social respect and equal treatment can motivate individuals to contribute more effectively to economic growth. Thus, development is a mix of material and non-material goals that reinforce each other.

9. What are the challenges in achieving national development in a diverse country like India?

Hint: Consider the regional disparities and conflicting goals mentioned in the textbook.

Solution: Achieving national development in India is challenging due to its vast diversity in terms of income, culture, and geography. Different regions have varying levels of infrastructure, education, and healthcare, leading to unequal development. For instance, Kerala excels in health and education, while Bihar lags behind. Conflicting interests, such as industrial growth versus environmental conservation, further complicate policy-making. Additionally, population growth and

resource scarcity pose significant hurdles. Addressing these challenges requires inclusive and equitable policies that cater to the needs of all sections of society, ensuring balanced and sustainable development.

10. How can collective provision of goods and services be more effective than individual provision in achieving development?

Hint: Think about the advantages of public facilities over private ones.

Solution: Collective provision of goods and services is more effective as it ensures affordability and accessibility for all. For example, public schools and hospitals provide education and healthcare to large populations at lower costs than private institutions. Collective security measures, like police services, protect entire communities more efficiently than individual security arrangements. This approach also promotes social equity by reducing disparities. Moreover, collective provision can address externalities like pollution control, which individuals cannot manage alone. Thus, it plays a vital role in achieving broad-based and inclusive development.

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