

International Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad
(Deemed to be University)

Thinking and Knowing in the Human Sciences - 2 (HS0.202)

End Sem Exams

Max. Time: 3 hours

Max. Marks: 100

27 Nov 2024

- This question paper is divided into two parts.
- In **Part one** you can answer any two questions. Each question is of 30 marks each. You are expected to bring in the different ideas discussed over the course into your answer.
- In **Part two** you are only to answer questions listed under your roll number. All questions are from the project that you submitted and its associated readings. However, you are encouraged to draw on the theories and methods discussed in the course to enrich your answers. Both questions are compulsory and are of 20 marks each.

Part One

Question 1: How would you write the history of traffic jams?

Question 2: Evaluate the synchronic and diachronic perspectives; state which one would you give priority to and why in the study of society.

✓ **Question 3:** Explain what is more important for the researcher: to get facts right, or to correctly identify the patterns which make up society?

✓ **Question 4:** In becoming the computer engineer you aspire to today, what played a more important role:

- i) your interests and capabilities,
- ii) your parents/family, -
- iii) your school and friends,
- iv) the social-economic class/group you were born into.

Part Two

Roll No: 2021115003

Question 5: What has been the role of insurgency, identity, and central government policies in shaping modern citizenship in Assam?

Question 6: Describe the way in which the "foreigner" issue developed in Assam during the colonial and independent India periods.

Roll No: 2023113025

Question 5: How does the story of the Indira Gandhi canal link with the story of uneven development of independent India that you studied in the MoCI course?

Question 6: What are the methodological advantages and what are the challenges of using the Annales ideas to study the Indira Gandhi canal?

✓ Roll No: 2023115001

Question 5: What is the advantage of the sociological approach to the subject at hand over the individual-psychological?

Question 6: If religion can both protect and encourage suicide, then is it an irrelevant variable to its study?

Roll No: 2023115002

Question 5: You have used elements from the Annales, Marxist, and Post-Structuralist theories to understand Assam. Evaluate which of these theories work better, in which conditions, and why. Similarly, what are the blind-spots of these theories?

Question 6: Give an overview of the secondary literature you have read on the topic and explain its gaps.

Roll No: 2023115003

Question 5: What are the arguments you have read which support the view that religions play an important role in dampening the proclivity towards suicide? Do you agree?

Question 6: What are the five functions of religion in suicide? Explain with examples.

Roll No: 2023115004

Question 5: Which is a better political system to manage water resources: a centralised state or a decentralised one? Explain with examples from ancient as well as contemporary India.

Question 6: What are Pynes and Ahars? How were they built and maintained? Are there any contemporary systems like that in India?

Roll No: 2023115005

Question 5: In your evaluation of the citizenship issue in Assam which among these three is the most important cause of conflict: linguistic division, ethnic divide or religious differences?

Question 6: How did colonial period policies and actions contribute to the post-independence problems of citizenship in Assam?

Roll No: 2023115006

Question 5: What are the main differences in the water management practices in Ancient and Medieval India?

Question 6: What changes did the British bring to water management in India? How have we done after independence?

Roll No: 2023115007

Question 5: Why is the issue of citizenship complicated in Assam?

Question 6: What roles do migrations and language play in the making of modern Assam politics?

Roll No: 2023115008

Question 5: How was water made into a commodity during colonial and post-colonial times? Can we apply the idea of surplus accumulation to this commodity; and if so, how?

Question 6: Explain the reasons which prompted you not to use the Annales methods/ideas for analysing water in India.

Roll No: 2023115009

Question 5: Why did the legal stance in India change from one of criminalising suicide to taking a more compassionate attitude?

Question 6: How responsible is the State, or society, in the rise of suicides in India after the early 1980s?

Roll No: 2023115012

Question 5: If you used the Marxist method instead of the Annales to analyse water history of Maharashtra, how would you go about it? What would be its disadvantages?

Question 6: What was the continuity and discontinuity in water management with the coming of the Marathas and the systems prior to them?

Roll No: 2023115013

Question 5: Has the Assamese identity become dependent on a binary opposition to the Bengali identity by the last decades of the 20th century?

Question 6: Of all the academic theories you have used to understand and explain Assam's identity and belonging issues, which one is the most insightful, and why?

Roll No: 2023115015

Question 5: What does it say about the Indian family that married men have a higher suicide rate than unmarried men, while unmarried women have a higher suicide rate than married women?

Question 6: In what ways do the trends in India diverge from global ones, and in what ways do they converge or run parallel? What inferences can you draw about Indian society from these?

Roll No: 2023115016

Question 5: What are the four binaries related to water and its management in the Mauryan empire? Explain them with examples.

Question 6: Of the various mentalities you have listed, which two are the most important to understand the social role of water in India? Give illustrations with your reasons.

Roll No: 2023115017

Question 5: How is the question of citizenship linked to the economic prosperity of Assam?

Question 6: Why did the Assamese feel economically exploited during the 20th century?

Roll No: 2023115018

Question 5: Other than Emile Durkheim, which other scholar / theorist provides insights into the study of altruistic suicide?

Question 6: What are the similarities and the differences between Altruistic Suicide and Suicide Terrorism?

Roll No: 2023115019

Question 5: What is the relation between land ownership and farmers' suicides in India? Why are these suicides concentrated in some regions and not others?

Question 6: Why have you categorised farmers' suicides as driven by Anomie, and not as Fatalistic suicides? Do you think Durkheim's four fold categorisation is sufficient or needs modification for India?